

## Parkinson and Rifkind under attack

# Two ministers blamed for nuclear failure

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

A CATALOGUE of errors by two cabinet ministers, Cecil Parkinson and Malcolm Rifkind, caused the virtual demise of Britain's nuclear power industry, a parliamentary enquiry said yesterday. Blame also attaches to the Central Electricity Generating Board and financial advisers during the failed attempt to privatise nuclear reactors.

The Conservative-dominated Commons energy committee said Parliament and the public had been deceived for decades over the costs of nuclear energy, as officials at public enquiries grossly underestimated the costs of building, running and decommissioning reactors.

The MPs called for an urgent review of the true costs of Sizewell B, the only surviving pressurised water reactor, before a decision is made on whether to continue the project.

Mr Parkinson, the former energy secretary, is censured for pressing ahead with plans to privatise nuclear energy with inadequate preparation, in the face of warnings about the problems from the committee and independent commentators. Mr Rifkind, the Scottish secretary, is accused of failing to acknowledge that nuclear energy was more expensive than conventionally-generated power.

Mr Parkinson is said to have failed to get the necessary information to determine

whether the privatisation plans would work, given insufficient priority to nuclear issues, and to have paid too little attention to advice from officials.

"The conduct of this aspect of the privatisation amounted to the restructuring of one of Britain's largest and most strategic industries in an ill-prepared manner," the report said. "The result has been the collapse of the present PWR programmes and the creation of a structure for the generating industry in which it may be more difficult than it should have been for competition to become established."

Opposition MPs immediately called for the cancellation of the Sizewell project, and for the two ministers to consider their futures. But John Wakeham, the energy secretary, robustly defended his predecessor, accusing the committee of being "perverse and unjustified" in criticising Mr Parkinson personally.

The committee had ignored the fact that it was "Cecil's vision" that led to new information about the costs of nuclear energy being made public, he said.

The committee's report demanded full accounts for all nuclear plants to be made public before decisions were made on whether to continue with Sizewell B, which is estimated to cost at least £2.6 billion to build, or plan any further reactors after 1994. Even now, it said, the real costs were not known.

The committee strongly challenges Mr Rifkind's assertion that electricity costs from Scottish nuclear plants "is likely to be below, in some cases significantly below, the cost of fossil fuel".

Report points out that Mr Rifkind, unlike Mr Parkinson, had been in office throughout the privatisation. The fact that the Scottish Office discovered only in May 1989 that nuclear generation was more expensive than conventional generation is particularly remarkable.

"Indeed, it is inexcusable that having known since December 1988 at the latest that nuclear power in England and Wales was significantly more expensive than conventional generation, it apparently did nothing to find out the cost of nuclear generation in Scotland and thus whether special arrangements were needed to ensure the sale of Scotland's nuclear output."

Mr Parkinson pushed legislation to sell off the electricity supply industry, through Parliament last summer. The ageing Magnox nuclear reactors were withdrawn from the sale last July as Mr

Parkinson was switched to the transport department. In November, the remaining nuclear power stations were withdrawn from the sale as revelations about the true costs of generating nuclear power threatened the whole privatisation exercise. Lord Marshall, the former head of the CEBG resigned as chairman designate of National Power as a result of the decision.

Last night, Lord Marshall predicted that Britain's nuclear power industry could not survive under the government's chosen method of privatisation. He had earlier blamed the government for "messing up" the nuclear programme by persistently ignoring his advice.

"We have managed to mess it up so many times that I think all we can do now is wait patiently until we have a whole new set of politicians some time in the distant future," he said on BBC Radio 4's Today programme.

Lord Marshall said that Mr Wakeham wanted work on the Sizewell B pressurised water reactor to continue because "it is too embarrassing to do anything else".

At a Westminster press conference yesterday, committee members fell out over the decision to criticise Mr Parkinson personally in the report, even though he was not called to give evidence. The Conservatives, Michael Stern and Malcolm Moss, distanced themselves from the committee, although they signed the report.

Mr Stern said: "While I accepted the conclusions, I do not regard myself as being bound by its arguments. The committee acted in an inexcusable way."

In the Commons, Frank Dobson, shadow energy secretary, said: "Both Parkinson and Rifkind have been responsible for making an appalling mess and, if ministerial responsibility means anything, they ought to go." Simon Hughes, the Liberal Democrats' environment spokesman, said: "Clearly we are energy secretary he would have no option but to resign immediately. It is up to him what view he takes on whether he should continue in office, given how badly he misled both Parliament and the country."

Alex Salmond, a Scottish Nationalist member of the committee, said: "Mr Rifkind's tenuous grasp of detail has contributed to a government debacle. He should now be considering his position as secretary of state."

MPs attack, page 6  
Battle of wills, page 6  
Photograph, page 6

## British men's gloom

DERRICK Rostagno, who beat John McEnroe on Tuesday, ensured that there would be no British representative in the men's third round at Wimbledon when he beat Jeremy Bates 6-1, 3-6, 6-4, 6-1.

The remaining Britons in the women's singles, Sara Gomer and Sarah Loosmore were defeated. Gomer, who beat Manuela Maleeva, the No 8 seed, in the first round, lost her second round match 5-7, 6-0, 5-7 to Angelica Gavaldon of the United States, while Loosmore was

beaten 6-3, 7-5 by Elina Reinach of South Africa.

Boris Becker, hoping for a third victory, lost the first set against Wally Maur of Australia on a tie-break but recovered to win 6-7, 6-2, 6-3, 6-2.

Steffi Graf, Monica Seles and Jennifer Capriati all won their second round matches in straight sets, but Hana Mandlikova played her last match at Wimbledon in losing to Ann Henriksen.

Law on touts, page 3  
Match reports, pages 43, 44



Temple: an eerie vacuum to the left of Labour

## UK communists warming to the cold war thaw

By ROBIN YOUNG

THE Communist party published a new manifesto yesterday and will now debate whether it is worth carrying on to try to implement it.

Down to its last 7,000 members, some of them veterans of 71 years' standing, the party is facing up to the fact that communism has got something of a bad name lately. Even its solitary district councillor in England, John Peck, who holds the balance of power in Nottingham after winning a seat at the 36th attempt, has just gone off to join the Green party, because he felt that the description "communist" had become a political liability.

At a press conference in London yesterday the party's new general secretary, Nina Temple, acknowledged that the current debate on the party's future amounted to a final attempt to salvage

something from the wreckage. There had to be a "no holds barred" debate, in which it was accepted that the party might abandon its name, its past philosophy, and even its party status, in the hope of bringing new life to British politics on the left.

The party's executive has identified three options: reforming the existing party, turning it into a "sort of holding company" with the intention of forming a new party, or creating a political association which would not contest elections but would attempt to stimulate political debate.

Ms Temple said that she favoured a reform of the present party, coupled with an attempt to set up a wider political association to the left of Labour.

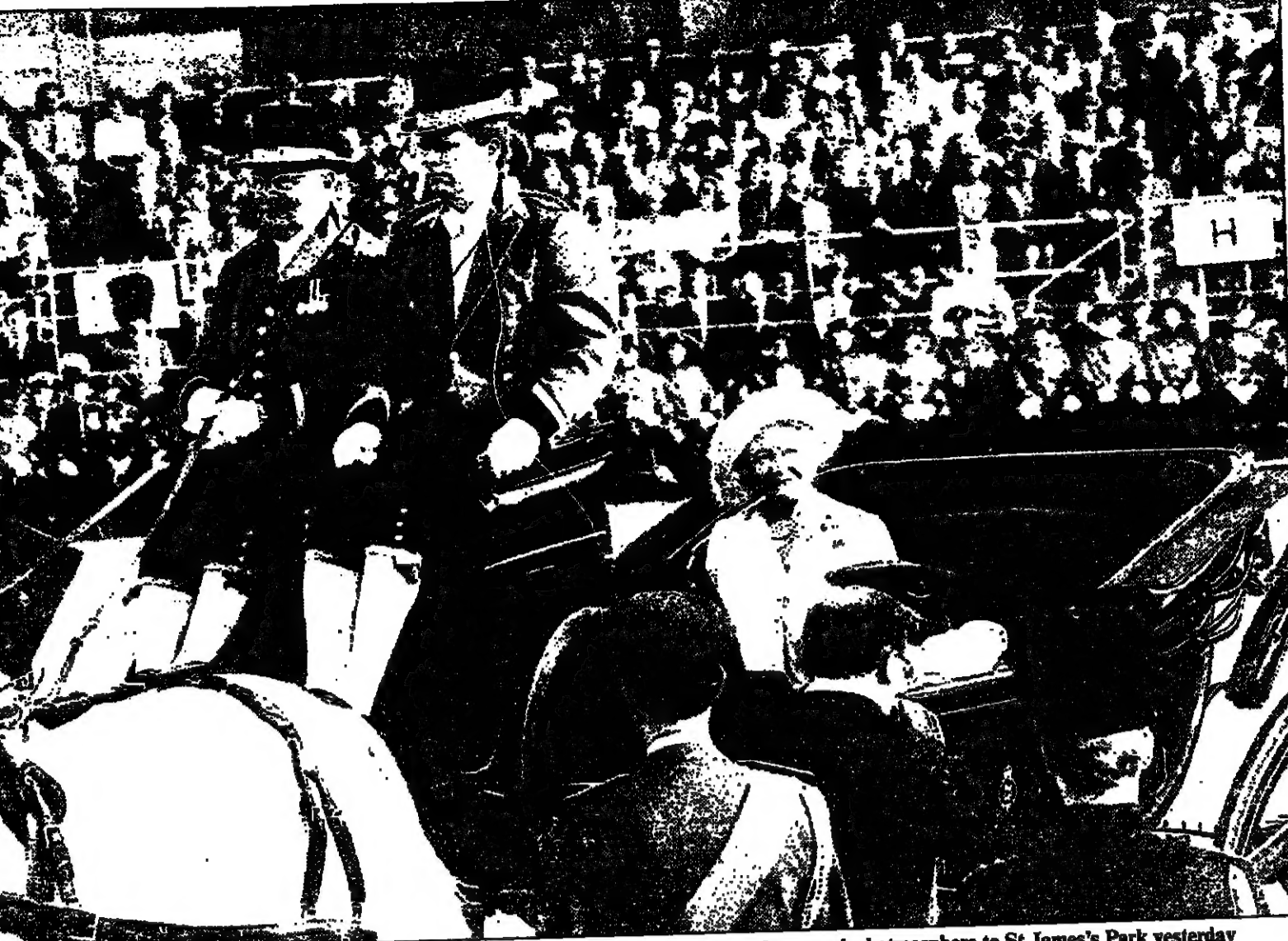
She said the constitution still described it as a Marxist-Leninist party, "but I do not think most of the active members would consider themselves

Leninists". The centralist socialism appropriate for overthrowing the Tsar was not much use against Margaret Thatcher.

The new manifesto calls for "a popular humanism to replace popular capitalism; a citizenship culture to displace enterprise culture". It argues that a political and ideological realignment on the left will be needed to draw together opposition to Thatcherism.

"There is," said Ms Temple, "an eerie vacuum to the left of Labour. To defeat the Tories will require a swing of landslide proportions, but there is not a great deal happening in the way of campaigning socialism. If we can come out of this with a small organisation which is clear about where it wants go, we could still be effective."

Manifesto for New Times: A strategy for the 1990s, Communist party with Lawrence & Wishart, £2.95.



Mother love: crowds greet the Queen Mother on her birthday parade, which brought a carnival atmosphere to St James's Park yesterday

## Soviet party shows divisions

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

THE Soviet Communist party central committee will decide tomorrow whether to postpone its 28th congress, which is due to begin on Monday. Clashes are expected between conservatives and reformists at the congress over the party's direction, and could result in a formal schism.

Vadim Medvedev, the party's head of ideology, said requests for a postponement, possibly until the autumn, had been made by delegates to last week's founding congress of the Russian Communist party. On Tuesday Boris Yeltsin, the reformist president of the Russian Federation, said he would support a delay, to prevent the congress being dominated by conservatives. But Mr Medvedev said the politburo and an overwhelming majority of party leaders wanted the congress held on schedule.

Two other developments revealed the depth of divisions. *Pravda*, the official party newspaper, published the final draft of the official policy document for the congress, which incorporates far-reaching concessions to reformists and conservatives in an attempt to preserve unity.

Local party organisations all over the Russian Federation were reported to have held meetings to challenge the election of the conservative, Ivan Polozkov, to the leadership of the new Russian Communist party. Many reformist Russian Communists say they want to stay in the Soviet Communist party and will resign if they have to join the Russian party. Mr Medvedev, however, insisted that the Russian party was an integral part of the Soviet party.

Opposition to the Russian party congress appeared to enjoy high level support. An article in *Pravda* yesterday criticised the proceedings in general and individual manifestations of conservatism in particular.

Army wooed, page 10  
Aid options, page 10

## Appeal over EC ruling on Rover deal unlikely

By RICHARD FORD AND MICHAEL BINYON

THE government is unlikely to appeal against yesterday's European Commission ruling that British Aerospace must repay £44.4 million of illegal "sweeteners" received as part of the sale of the Rover car company.

Sir Leon Brittan, the EC competition commissioner, made the long awaited announcement, which also made clear that a further £40 million or so may also have to be repaid next year if it is not used in restructuring the commercial vehicles division.

The decision comes after the commission's investigation into the illegal financial inducements used to persuade British Aerospace to buy Rover in 1988, and was widely seen as a crucial test of Sir Leon's tough policy on state aids as well as his political independence from his former cabinet colleagues.

Nicholas Ridley, trade and industry secretary, will make a statement in the Commons this afternoon when he will give the government's reaction to the commission's ruling on what his predecessor, Lord Young of

Grafton, described as "the deal of the decade".

Although there was clear embarrassment at yesterday's announcement and anger at No 10, the prime minister and her ministerial colleagues were in no mood to offer apologies for the sale of Rover. Mr Ridley and his officials considered the ruling, government sources wel-

comed the fact that the commission had found that Rover had not been undervalued.

At Westminster there was also relief among Conservatives that Lord Young, the man at the centre of the controversy, had left the government and his position as deputy chairman of the Conservative party before yesterday's ruling.

Gordon Brown, the shadow trade and industry secretary, said the decision was a humiliating rebuke for the government. "At issue is not just the deliberate decision to deceive parliament and the public."

Robert Sheldon, the chairman of the Commons public accounts committee, said it was clear parliament had not been informed fully.

British Airways, Sabena and KLM were ordered yesterday to renegotiate the terms of their joint venture, Sabena World Airways, with the European Commission.

Full report, page 2  
Britain order, page 23

How many sweeteners to the gallon?

ROVER

SALES

## Field will accept reselection result

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

FRANK Field promised yesterday to accept the result of a new reselection contest in his Birkenhead constituency and said he would not cause a by-election if the result went against him.

He was speaking after Labour's national executive ordered a rerun of the procedure in which he was defeated by Paul Davies, a trade union official, last December.

But the new ballot could be delayed for months, while disciplinary proceedings are taken against Birkenhead members alleged to be members of Militant Tendency.

The decision came on the day the executive gave final approval to changes in the party's policy-making machinery, cutting the trade union block vote from 90 per cent to 70 per cent at party

conferences. The executive also backed a longer-term plan to consider giving MPs and MEPs a conference vote in line with their present 30 per cent share in the electoral college that chooses the party leader. Such a move would cut the block vote even further.

The policy-making package was approved in principle two months ago. Yesterday, after consultations through the party, a slightly-amended version was approved with three members voting against.

A new national policy forum will take over the formation of party policy from the Labour conference and update policy through seven standing commissions on a rolling basis.

Continued on page 22, col 1

Leading article, page 13

## Carnival birthday parade

By JOHN YOUNG

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother's birthday parade brought a carnival atmosphere to St James's Park yesterday evening, with crowds picnicking and marquees occupied by members of 180 organisations associated with her.

Clarence House said that yesterday had been chosen for the parade as it had to be a day that suited everybody. Her Majesty's real birthday is on August 4. The stands erected on Horseguards Parade for Trooping the Colour on June 16 were still in place, and in any case it would be impossible to crowd everything into a single day on August 4.

The evening programme included performances by the massed bands of all three armed services, the mounted bands of the Household Cavalry, the pipes and drums of the Scottish regiments and the King's troop of the Royal Horse Artillery. There was mass singing of popular songs of both world wars such as *Take Me Back To Dear Old Blighty* and *Underneath the Arches*.

Leading article, page 13

## BOODLES JEWELLERY

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INDEX	
Arts.....	18-20
Births, marriages, deaths.....	15
Business.....	23-31
Court & Social.....	14
Crosswords.....	15, 22
Health.....	29
Law Report.....	13
Leading articles.....	13
Letters.....	14
Obituary.....	8
Parliament.....	33-36
Science and technology.....	38-44
Sport.....	21
TV & Radio.....	22
Weather.....	22



# Rail fares may rise to pay for safety improvements, says union

By TIM JONES  
EMPLOYMENT CORRESPONDENT

RAIL commuters face more fare rises to pay for £500 million safety improvements in the wake of the Clapham disaster, a union conference was told yesterday.

Delegates to the National Union of Railwaymen conference in Liverpool made clear the corporation could be faced with industrial action if it attacked jobs and working conditions to finance the measures. The union claimed that as Cecil Parkinson, the transport secretary, had not committed the government to provide the cash, he may ask the industry to

meet the costs by increasing its borrowing limits.

Mr John Cogger, the union's president, said: "What this must mean is even higher fares and a further squeeze on staff and working conditions. We will then have the ultimate absurdity. BR will cut staff and force the remainder to work more overtime in order to meet the cost of safety measures arising from an accident caused, in part, by long hours. We will resist any attempts to attack jobs and working conditions to pay for safety measures which are the government's responsibility."

The union is convinced the uneasy truce it has with BR after

last year's pay strikes is about to be severely strained because of the government's intention to reduce grants from £516m last year to £345m in 1993. There could be friction next month when British Rail is expected to announce the restructuring of its operation into six separate business centres. That, the union fears, could threaten national pay bargaining, a system they are determined to maintain.

Jimmy Knapp, the union's general secretary, said: "If collective bargaining is threatened once again, we will defend ourselves in the same way as we did last summer."

Delegates rejected Mr Knapp's

call for the union to accept government money for conducting postal ballots. Last year, the union spent £642,000 balloting its members.

Gwyneth Dunwoody, the NUR-sponsored MP told the conference that women were becoming increasingly frightened of travelling by train as more guards were taken off, more staff removed from platforms and more stations left unstaffed at nights and weekends. Last year there were 1,075 attacks on BR property, 16 of them rapes.

Mrs Dunwoody said: "Figures published earlier this month show overall crimes of violence have

increased by 7 per cent on the Underground in London and sex offences have increased by an appalling 46 per cent."

She said the figures were even worse for British Rail, where there had been an overall increase in violent crime of 17 per cent and a rise in sex offences of 61 per cent.

Tourist coaches will be banned from more than 160 streets in west and central London after protests from local residents, Westminster city council announced yesterday (Michael Dynes writes).

Coach drivers will be allowed to use only designated strategic roads unless they can prove they are driving to hotels or other

legitimate destinations within the "coach exclusion zone". Coach parking is already prohibited. Areas affected include Fulham, Victoria, Belgrave, Marylebone, Bayswater, and Hyde Park. If successful, the scheme could be extended to other parts of the capital.

Robert Davis, chairman of Westminster traffic and works committee, said the city council was planning to spend about £100,000 on signs indicating where the ban operated. Work on the signs would begin in October and would take about nine months. Coach operators violating the ban will be subject to a

maximum fine of £400. David Watson, of the bus and coach council, said the ban reflected the council's code of practice, which urges drivers not to use residential areas where there is a viable alternative. However, he feared it could be the thin end of the wedge.

Mr Davis described the initiative as one element in the council's strategy to reduce improve traffic flows in and around Westminster. Another project is to install traffic lights at every junction in Parliament Square. Mr Davis is also planning to ask the transport secretary to transfer powers to enforce bus lanes from the police to the city council.

PETER AUSTIN

## British Aerospace/Rover Brittan tells government to recover illegal £44m

From MICHAEL BINYON IN BRUSSELS

BRITISH Aerospace must repay the government £44.4 million of illegal state aid for the purchase of Rover, the European Commission announced yesterday. A further £40 million or so may have to be repaid next year if it is not used up in restructuring the commercial vehicles division.

The long-awaited announcement was made by Sir Leon Brittan, the competition commissioner. It culminates a commission investigation into the illegal financial inducements used to persuade British Aerospace to buy Rover in 1988, and was widely seen as a crucial test of Sir Leon's tough policy on state aid and his political independence from his former cabinet colleagues.

It is the most serious financial penalty ever exacted on a British company by Brussels, and severely dents Britain's boast that it has the best record of compliance with EC legislation. The government will now be required to recover £42.9 million from British Aerospace and £1.5 million from Rover Group.

The commission will also require an undertaking from Britain that no tax advantages will be granted to BAE.

The commission has not included any sum for the alleged undervaluation of Rover, having evidently found it impossible to work out what were the real figures. Sir Leon claimed that any difference between the market price and that paid was only negligible.

The acceptance by Sir Leon's predecessor, Mr Peter Sutherland, of the valuation given in 1988 also makes it difficult to go back on that agreement, and would have inevitably provoked a challenge by Britain in the European Court.

Sir Leon vigorously defended the commission's handling of the case, including its original valuation of the company. But he suggested that with hindsight things might have been done differently. He made clear that he would be unlikely ever again to accept closed bids as a basis for calculating state aid.

He noted that in 1988 Britain had asked for authorisation to write off debts of £800 million for Rover, before selling the company for £150 million. Brussels had cut this amount to £469 million, which he called a landmark decision, crucially important to the formulation of the firm's Commission stance against state aid.

Since November, however, the commission has been investigating all the allegations of undeclared sweeteners and undervaluation, first made by the National Audit Office. Among those declared illegal yesterday were: £9.5 million paid to BAE to cover part of the costs it incurred in acquiring Rover shares from minority shareholders; £1.5 million to Rover to cover the costs it incurred as a result of the sale; £33.4 million which represents the national benefit to BAE arising from the government's agreement to defer payment of the £150 million purchase price from July 12 1988 to March 30 1990.

The last concession was said by the audit office report to be estimated by the government at £22 million. That calculation was made on the basis that if BAE had had to borrow £150 million for the same 20-month period, it would have cost £33.4 million. The higher financial charges associated with the loan would have reduced BAE's profitability and therefore its tax liability by £11.4 million, so the theoretical net benefit to BAE would have been £22 million.

However, the commission has always based its calculation of illegal aid on the gross figure, and therefore decided yesterday to require the repayment of the full £33.4 million.

In addition, the commission examined several other concessions made by the

government in side-letters to the final sale contract which were not disclosed to Brussels at the time. The government will be required to reinstate the terms of sale as communicated to the commission at the time of the sale.

The stiff reminder to the British government that BAE may also have to repay an almost equal sum in unpaid restructuring aid was reflected by Sir Leon as no reflection on the company or any suggestion of wrongdoing. He said the figure was still an estimate. But it was a key element of the original agreement that the Rover money allocated for restructuring of the commercial vehicles division, of which DAF is now the main shareholder, could be underused or overvalued.

Any such money must be repaid by the end of the restructuring period, though the exact figure will not be known until next year.

Sir Leon justified the commission's decision not to press the issue of undervaluation. This reportedly led to conflict within the 17-member commission, with several hard-liners saying he had been too soft on his native country. He refused to comment, saying only that commission decisions represented the views of all.

He said that the commission looked at the advice which the merchant bank Baring Brothers gave the government, and the calculations of the audit office and compared them with its own analysis carried out in 1988 on the basis of a variety of international and external sources. These included confidential information provided by Ford. It concluded that all the estimates of Rover's value were in a similar range.

Asked whether he was frustrated by the fact that Rover was now worth much more, he sharply denied any such feeling. "Thank God it's more valuable than before."

Yesterday's decision comes hard on the heels of the most severe previous test of Sir Leon's hard line against state aid: his insistence that Renault repay some six billion French francs of the total 12 billion French francs in illegal subsidies.

He negotiated with the French government before striking a deal with Michel Rocard, the prime minister, who reluctantly agreed to the arrangement rather than face action in the European Court.

## Executive helicopter crash kills two

By CRAIG SETON

TWO people died yesterday and four others were injured, one critically, when a helicopter owned by JCB, the excavator company, crashed as it was about to land at the company's headquarters at Rugeley, Staffordshire.

Sir Anthony Bamford, the chairman, was one of the first rescuers to reach the scene and a youth who helped shut down the engines was last night praised for his bravery.

Eyewitnesses said a piece of metal dropped from the twin-engine Agusta 106 and it plummeted after apparently developing engine trouble. It crashed on its side in a corn field less than two miles from the JCB plant. The pilot and five passengers were on board the helicopter, used by customers and executives, which was flying from Woking in Surrey.

One of the two fatally injured in the accident died later in the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary, Stoke on Trent, where the four others were being treated last night for head, chest and leg injuries.

Andrew Nelson, aged 18, a pupil at Abbotsholme, a private school, whose father flies helicopters, and Steve Morris, a student teacher, waded across the River Dove to the crash site to help the victims



The wreckage of the helicopter, which apparently developed engine trouble and crashed on its side just before landing, lying in the field

and ensure that power to the helicopter's engines was cut off.

Sir Anthony Bamford, who was knighted in the Queen's birthday honours two weeks ago, jumped into his car and drove from the JCB plant to the scene and helped the injured.

Mr Nelson, from Harpenden, who holds a pilot's licence, said: "We saw it come down and ran across the

games field and waded across a shallow bit of the river. I saw people hanging out of the helicopter and I noticed that the engine was still running and revving very highly."

"All of a sudden the engine cut out with a little burst of flame. I ran over and all the electrics were still working. The pilot had tried to disconnect them, but he was in such a bad way that it was difficult for him to reach

them. When I realised there was no longer a smell of fuel I started running round and disconnected the battery connectors. We did not really think of the danger. We were quickly overtaken by the need to help the survivors."

Inspector George Bennett, of Staffordshire police, said: "Andrew showed great presence of mind. It was a very brave thing to do." Ian Foster, the bursar of Andrew's school,

added: "He knew the helicopter could explode but he knew just what to do. We are very proud of him."

JCB said its chairman did what he could to help the injured. Sir Anthony said later: "I am shocked and saddened by this accident. We have an excellent flying safety record and this is the first accident of any sort."

The four injured were named last night: Arthur

Leitch, aged 47, of Reading, Berkshire, was critical with chest and back injuries; the pilot, John Wright, of Castle Donington, Leicestershire (chest and neck injuries); Ken Lynburn, aged 35, of Bedhampton, Hampshire (leg and chest injuries); and John Durent, aged 33, of Aldershot, (chest injuries).

The Civil Aviation Authority last night began an inquiry into the crash.

## BMA renews attack on health service reforms

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

THE British Medical Association yesterday announced a summer offensive against the National Health Service reforms.

This third phase of its 18 month campaign, which has already cost £2.5 million, will target health authority chairmen, NHS managers and local communities. The association said it would work closely with community groups to get over to the public the implications of the changes by distributing leaflets, organising petitions and balloting key workers such as GPs.

"Our previous campaigns suggest that when the chips are down patients listen to what we have to say and believe us," Dr John Marks, the association's chairman, told the annual representative meeting in Bournemouth. "We must continue our efforts to expose the weakness of the government's case while reiterating the need for controlled and evolutionary change," he said.

It is likely that the BMA will organise meetings to expose public and staff opposition in areas where hospitals have

submitted applications for self-governing status. The campaign aims to educate doctors and the public and to try to reduce "to zero" the number of self-governing hospitals and GP budget holders from the predictions of 40 and 300 respectively.

Dr Marks said that where GPs or hospital doctors found themselves working in self-governing hospitals or in practice holding budgets, they would have to act in the best interests of the patients.

BMA leaders appear to have accepted that once reforms become law, doctors will have to work with them to safeguard patient care. While doctors will not be encouraged to volunteer to become budget holders or support self-governing proposals, they will be expected to help draw up contracts for patient services under an internal market. A motion calling for non-cooperation with the reforms was not put to the vote after a procedural tactic to move to the next business.

Dr Sharon Binyon, a junior doctor from Birmingham who proposed the motion, urged

the association to give doctors a clear idea of what they should do now to oppose the reforms since no meaningful negotiations had taken place with the government.

However, BMA leaders urged the conference not to support the motion.

Dr Marks said that a vote for non-cooperation would play into the government's hands. If the reforms failed, Kenneth Clarke, the health secretary, could blame the medical profession.

Michael Bett, managing director of British Telecom, has been appointed chairman of the nurses' pay review body. Downing Street announced yesterday. He will take over from Sir James Clesington later this year once the present review of senior nurses' pay is completed.

Mr Bett has served on the Armed Forces pay review body and was a member of the 1983 inquiry into health service management. Health service unions said the appointment of a hardline industrialist would undermine the independence of the review body.

## IRA bomb suspect 'would not get fair trial in Britain'

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

A MAN wanted in Britain for his alleged part in an IRA bombing campaign in London in which three people were killed, should not be extradited from the Republic of Ireland because he would not get a fair trial, the Dublin high court was told yesterday.

Lawyers for Desmond Ellis, aged 37, from Dublin, said that they would introduce evidence from past British trials of Irishmen including the Guildford Four case, the Winchester Three and the Birmingham Six, to show that their client could not be treated fairly in Britain.

Patrick McEntee, counsel for Mr Ellis, told the court: "Things have so developed in the neighbouring jurisdiction due to prejudice which makes the procuring of a fair trial in

England difficult to the point of impossibility." Mr McEntee was granted an adjournment until July 24 to prepare evidence. Among those in court supporting Mr Ellis was Patrick Ryan, a former priest, whose own extradition to Britain was refused by the Irish attorney general in 1988 on the grounds that he could not get a fair trial.

Mr Ellis, a former television engineer, is wanted on two warrants alleging possession of explosives in Britain and conspiracy to cause explosions. The warrants relate to an IRA bombing campaign in London between 1981 and 1983, which included the Chelsea Barracks attack in which two people were killed, an explosion in Oxford Street in which an Army bomb disposal officer died and a bomb attack on the home of Sir Michael Havers.

Mr Ellis's case is important in several respects. If extradited, he will be the first person to be handed over to Scotland Yard by the Irish courts. This is also the first case in Ireland to come under the Republic's 1987 Extradition Act which is based on the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism.

The act is at the centre of a gathering political storm in Dublin which some observers believe could undermine the year-old Fianna Fail/Progressive Democrats coalition government. Charles Haughey, the prime minister, faces pressure from the democrats and opposition parties to amend the legislation to restrict further the definition of a political offence as defined in the act.

The dispute comes after recent decisions by the Irish supreme court which freed convicted IRA men partly because their alleged offences were of a political nature. Mr Haughey's critics are concerned that the new legislation contains loopholes which will allow for a successful political defence if alleged offences involve non-automatic firearms or possession of explosives rather than their use.

Mr Haughey, whose room for manoeuvre on this issue is restricted by the strength of feeling within his party, has said repeatedly that he will not amend the act until it has been tested before the courts.

Lawyers will argue that Mr Ellis's alleged offences were political. They will also test for the first time whether the 1987 act should apply to alleged offences committed before it became law, but for which warrants were issued after its introduction.

## Carlton club camera was not working

Scotland Yard said yesterday that the security camera outside the Carlton club was not recording at the time an IRA team bombed the premises on Monday (Stewart Tendler writes). When officers sat down to look at the film they found it was for the wrong day.

The Yard's anti-terrorist branch has lost what might have been a vital breakthrough in the hunt for the IRA units operating in Britain for the past 22 months.

Pictures recorded from the closed circuit camera could have been compared with police records to identify the bombers. They could also have been used in public appeals and provided potent evidence for any prosecution. Police do not believe the bombers noticed the camera.

There was an air of disappointment and bitterness at Scotland Yard yesterday. Officially, the Yard would only say: "We regret that the contents of the video have been thoroughly examined and do not assist the inquiry."

## Solicitor is fined £2,500

A solicitor who said he was driven to a near-breakdown after becoming involved with a company associated in the Barlow Clowes scandal has been fined £2,500 by the Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal for "unbecoming conduct".

John Cordingley, aged 45, from Bradford, Yorkshire, said he was subjected to pressure after becoming the first person to cast doubts on Barlow Clowes.

He bought a 50 per cent shareholding in an investment company in liaison with Guy von Cramer, the multi-millionaire, but ended up litigating against him.

## Guinness delay

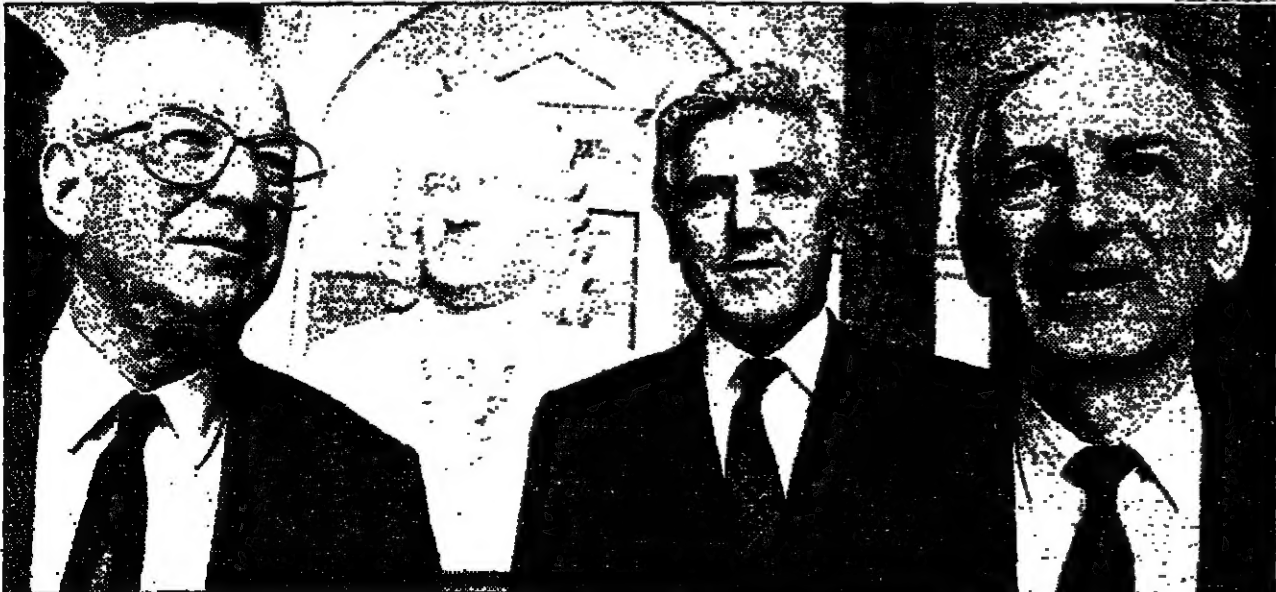
The Guinness trial at Southwark Crown Court yesterday spent the day hearing legal argument. Cross-examination of Ernest Saunders, the former chairman of the brewing group who is charged with Gerald Ronson, Anthony Parnes and Sir Jack Lyons in relation to the Distillers takeover, will continue today.

## Schools chess

The finals of the British Schools Chess Championship sponsored by The Times take place today and tomorrow at Charing Cross Hotel, London. The four semi-finalists are Nottingham High School, Newcastle Royal Grammar School, Truro School, Cornwall and St Paul's School, London.

## Musicians reject college merger proposal

DES JENSON



Mr de Rothschild (left), Ian Stouitzer, of the committee, and Michael Gough-Matthews, director, at the college

By DAVID TYTLER  
EDUCATION EDITOR

LEADING musicians yesterday joined Sir Yehudi Menuhin in supporting the Royal College of Music's campaign to keep its independence. The college claimed that it had not been asked for its views on the proposed merger with the rival Royal Academy of Music.

Sir Yehudi, a former student at the college, had written to The Times saying that musicians would find it difficult to believe that the merger suggested by the Polytechnics and Colleges Funding

Council would improve the quality of professional music in the country as they claimed. The council, which took over the financing of the colleges from the Department of Education and Science in 1988, set up a committee of enquiry under Lord Gower, the former arts minister. It recommended the merger of the Royal Academy and the Royal College as a way of ensuring that more government money went to the students, rising from £6,400 a year to £7,500.

Leopold de Rothschild, chairman of the college's council, told a press conference at the college that it had not

been consulted on the proposals. It would be discussing them with the funding council and the Royal Academy, which had accepted them. There would, however, be "substantial changes" for the plan to be successful, he said. An amalgamated college on a split site would not work.

The campaign to keep the college independent is supported by leading musicians, including Norman Del Mar, Sir Charles Groves, and Peter Jonas, general director of English National Opera, all of whom are former students at the college.

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A brief lesson



The Strangeways enquiry

# Governor denies receiving warning of impending riot

By PETER DAVENPORT

THE governor of Strangeways denied yesterday that any warnings of a possible riot had been passed on to him.

Brendan O'Friel said he visited the prison on the Saturday before the disturbance began and left feeling the jail was in "very good form". His first alert to trouble came when his "bleeper" sounded while he was at home on the morning of Sunday, April 1, he told the thirteenth day of the Woolf enquiry in Manchester.

Mr O'Friel said he reached Strangeways at midday and had to be ushered to the beleaguered control room under protective shields as hundreds of inmates threw bricks and slates from the prison roof.

He said that his first thoughts were of the violent disturbances at Hull prison in 1976. "I just thought, Oh God, it's Hull again."

The enquiry has been told that prison authorities were given advance information about a possible riot in the Church of England chapel at Strangeways on April 1 in a note from an inmate and verbal warnings from other prisoners. Yesterday David Latham, QC, counsel to the

enquiry, told Mr O'Friel that letters from inmates to Lord Justice Woolf said that the potential trouble had been "the talk of the prison".

Mr O'Friel insisted, however, that he was not told of any warnings and that he only became aware of them after they were reported in the media later in the week.

The riot erupted at the end of the morning service in the chapel and Mr O'Friel said yesterday he wished improvements had been made to the security of the chapel after an earlier incident in which two



O'Friel: denied inmates unable to air grievances

prisoners gained access to the roof.

At the time he was unaware of that particular security problem, he said. It was a route to be used again during the riot on April 1.

Mr O'Friel said of the failure to remove that security risk, "It is something I will regret for all my days."

Mr Latham said that one of the main complaints from prisoners who had written to the enquiry was that they were never able to air their grievances. Mr O'Friel, who strongly defended his running of Strangeways, said he was "quite cross" at that allegation because he had made a point of regularly talking to inmates and staff as he walked about the wings, something his predecessors had not done.

Mr O'Friel described the chaos in the first hours of the riot as prison staff tried to restore order.

Missiles crashed down on the glass roof of the control room, communications were a nightmare with, at times, only one telephone line to the outside world. "It was sheer pandemonium for the first three or four hours," he said.

He repeated his concerns yesterday about the overcrowding at Strangeways which led to complaints from inmates about treading up — three to a cell — in the weeks before the riot.

Mr O'Friel said that the population mix within Strangeways was clearly wrong.

He said that in 1987, shortly after arriving at Strangeways, he had asked for a psychologist as a key person in such a programme. He told the judge that he had been "fairly mortified" to find there was not already one on the prison staff.

The request was denied. Asked if he had repeated the request, Mr O'Friel responded: "You reach a stage in this service when you get fed up asking for things you know you are not going to get."

The enquiry was adjourned early to allow Mr O'Friel and lawyers to study transcripts of conversations between the governor and the deputy director-general of the prison service, Mr Brian Eames. They led up to an order from Mr Eames to Mr O'Friel not to go ahead with a planned attack to retake the prison but the hearing was told yesterday that the transcript of that particular call was not available.

The hearing continues today.

Letters, page 13



Friendship blossomed between Amanda Rutterford, aged 16, of Newmarket, and Andrew Medley, aged 20, of Middlesbrough, Salford, when they discovered that they had something in common: a pacemaker. The pair were among 400 heart sufferers who re-

turned to Papworth hospital in Cambridgeshire, where they had their operations, to celebrate its 3,000th pacemaker implant, in March. Tim Cole, the hospital's chief cardiologist, said: "You cannot buy the pleasure it is going to give to welcome everyone back for the day." Papworth fits about 300 pacemakers each year and has carried out 3,114 implants since the programme began in 1967. Pacemakers, the size of slimline cigarette lighters, are fitted beneath the skin in an operation costing about £1,000.

## Call to tighten law against touts rejected

By MARK SOUSTER

THE Home Office said last night that it had no plans to introduce licensing of ticket agencies in spite of growing calls during Wimbledon for government action to counter the threat of organised crime infiltrating the lucrative black market ticket business.

While acknowledging that ticket touting was obnoxious, the Home Office said it was up to individuals to choose whether they wanted to buy overpriced tickets which were yesterday selling for £400 each for the centre court.

Some MPs, including Menzies Campbell, the Liberal Democrat sports spokesman, and Mark Fisher, the Labour arts spokesman, are aware of intimidation being used on at least one reputable West End ticket agency which had its windows smashed and car tyres slashed.

Mr Campbell, who on Tuesday introduced a private member's bill which proposed the licensing of agencies as successfully adopted in America, said: "If there is evidence of organised crime, I am very concerned for the public good." He was also anxious to protect the genuine fan who

often lost out at big events. He said he hoped the government would take notice of the real fears that criminals are increasingly involved in touting which has an estimated annual turnover of £25 million.

At Wimbledon, where one tout was arrested for alleged obstruction and another after scuffles with police, Chief Inspector Raymond Dunn, head of police operations, said: "It is obvious from the way they are gathered together that there must be some kind of getting together or organisation. I cannot say it is an international syndicate but it is reasonable to assume there is some kind of organisation."

Wimbledon officials have been holding talks with lawyers for the past three weeks on ways to combat the growing threat of ticket touts. Boris Becker, Martina Navratilova and Monica Seles were refused entry to the grounds yesterday because they did not have their official passes. A Wimbledon spokesman said that all players must have the correct passes before gaining entry.

Match reports, pages 43-44

## Cabin crews say passengers' safety depends on breaks

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

AIR passengers' safety could be endangered if regulations governing cabin crew working hours were not properly enforced, the transport workers' union said yesterday.

The union's allegation came after a two-month delay in implementing new regulations while airlines seek exemptions from the Civil Aviation Authority. Cabin crews lobbied parliament yesterday to urge an end to exemptions.

George Ryde, national secretary for civil aviation of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said: "The message is simple. Exhausted cabin crew can mean passengers being put at risk in an emergency. Airlines seem to view their cabin crews as a cosmetic attachment to their product, but they are there to ensure passenger safety."

The role of cabin crew in air safety was highlighted in May when the department's air

accidents investigation branch told the M1 air crash inquiry that a similar disaster had been averted when a Dan Air cabin team warned the flight deck of engine trouble.

The CAA sets regulations for the 400 British holders of air operators' certificates to guard against excessive fatigue. These were in need of revision in 1988, and agreement was reached between the authority, the airlines and the union this year. But their implementation, scheduled for May 1, was postponed until July 1 so the airlines could hold private meetings with the CAA about exemptions.

The lobby came as the authority announced that £750 million was to be spent over seven years on advanced air traffic control technology. Sir Christopher Tugendhat, the chairman, said yesterday: "Our aim is to improve safety

as well as to increase capacity."

Derek McLauchlan, director-general of projects and engineering, said that by the late 1990s, controllers should get a 20-minute warning that aircraft were likely to fly too close to each other. Present systems can give only a five-minute warning.

Other projects in the investment plan include a central control function that is expected to increase the capacity of London's sky lanes by using so-called "tunnels in the sky", a new air traffic control centre to cope with the predicted 40 per cent increase in traffic over the rest of England and Wales by 1996, and a Scottish radar programme.

The authority looked to the possibility of another London runway by early next century, and of another 600 air traffic controllers being employed by 1996.

## Huntsman died trying to save hounds

A HUNTSMAN was killed by a train after he rode on to a railway line to save his hounds, an inquest was told yesterday.

Joseph Cunningham, master of the Cleveland Hunt, failed to hear the train driver blowing his horn when he rode along the single track of the Middlesbrough-Whitby line.

Mr Cunningham, aged 53, whose wife Valerie and daughter Fiona were hunting with him, jumped onto a straight stretch of track known as "The Mad Mile" after his pack strayed near Newton under Rosberry, Cleveland. He had his back to an on-coming train and a strong wind blew away the sound of the horn and urgent cries of Martin Lowcock, a huntsman.

The accident happened as Mr Cunningham, a potato merchant and a father of two, of North Skelton, Cleveland, led 12 riders on a day's hunting in January. Mr Lowcock, aged 21, a farmer, told the inquest at Gillingham that he called after Mr Cunningham when he saw the train approaching. "I shouted warnings that there was a strong wind."

Mr Cunningham, who had been master of the hounds for two seasons, died from multiple injuries. Graham Appleton, the train driver, said he was travelling at 42mph when he saw the dogs, which he at first mistook for sheep. He said that he slammed on the emergency brake the instant he saw the huntsman.

"The guy came out of nowhere," Mr Appleton said. "The brake was applied straight away and the train hit the back of the horse and the gentleman was thrown underneath."

A jury returned a verdict of accidental death. Brian Toon, of the Masters of Foxhounds Association, said of Mr Cunningham: "He was a very able and popular man but he should not have been on the line on his horse at that point. We have apologised to British Rail."

## Howell condemns Italy for deporting supporters

From JOHN GOODBODY IN BOLOGNA AND ROBIN OAKLEY

A POLITICAL argument blew up yesterday over the summary deportation of 246 British football supporters from Italy after street battles with police and local residents in Rimini.

Denis Howell, Labour's sports spokesman, condemned the Italian authorities for rounding up and sending home the fans as a disgrace. He accused Colin Moynihan, the sports minister, of having committed a "monstrous mistake" by saying those involved were motivated by criminal behaviour.

As Mr Moynihan remained unrepentant in the face of the criticism, the supporters who were deported were told they will have to pay if they want their belongings sent to them.

The British consulate in Florence will help the individuals recover their money, clothes and passports. The supporters are being asked to write to the consulate department of the Foreign Office with detailed descriptions of their belongings so that they can be found. They will then be told how much they will have to pay before the baggage is sent to England.

When the police rounded up the supporters involved in the disturbances on Monday night they would not let anyone collect their possessions. Many arrived at Gatwick on Tuesday saying they were innocent of what was described as "true urban guerrilla warfare" in one Bologna newspaper, and complaining that they would be unable to recover luggage unless friends brought it home.

Mr Howell said that the guilty should be prosecuted and not convicted by mass libel, but Mr Moynihan replied that Mr Howell had "echoed the pleas of the louts who comprise football's effluent tendency."

Mr Moynihan told MPs that it would be unwise of the government to decide on whether English clubs could return to European competitions until they could as-

sess the behaviour of supporters in the 1989-90 domestic season and the World Cup.

There were angry interruptions from Conservative MPs as Mr Howell said that he had requested a meeting with the president of Uefa, the governing body of European football, to assure him that "the increasingly frenzied utterances of the minister, particularly about innocent people deported without trial, have no support on the Opposition benches or from responsible people."

Mr Moynihan said he maintained his support for the tough, swift and effective Italian policing which had undoubtedly contained incidents that could have escalated to levels seen too often in the past.

Under the order signed by Antonio Gava, the interior minister, the 246 people were deported for "behaving in a way totally incompatible with the situation on the Adriatic

Riviera already crowded with numerous groups of tourists".

The fans have been told they will not be allowed back into Italy during the World Cup and their names and addresses have been issued to all border posts. Many England supporters were still in Rimini yesterday and will stay there as long as the team stays in the competition.

Belgium is unlikely to ask for the early extradition of Britons convicted of manslaughter during the Heysel stadium riot in Brussels, a spokeswoman for the ministry of justice said yesterday.

On Tuesday, a Belgian appeal court increased the prison sentences of 11 British soccer fans convicted of manslaughter during the 1985 riot in which 39 people died. It is believed the justice ministry would probably be satisfied if the supporters served their sentences in British prisons.

Parliament, page 8

## Service chiefs seek review details

By MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE three service chiefs have told ministers that they want a broad picture of what is planned for the armed forces under the options for change review by October, so that they can begin detailed work on implementing the decisions.

The main fear is that if decisions are delayed beyond the autumn, the Treasury will take over the driving seat in forcing through cuts in the defence budget as part of the annual public expenditure rounds, before a proper restructuring plan.

The army is anxious to get a government decision as soon as possible because it is expected to be the service most significantly affected by the review.

According to senior army sources yesterday, General Sir John Chapple, chief of the general staff, submitted his own paper to Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir David Craig, chief of the defence staff, and to the review team in March. It set out what he regarded as the essential ingredients for the army, listing more than 100 items, covering capabilities as opposed to particular weapon systems.

General Chapple's paper outlined capabilities that will still be required if the government decides to maintain sufficient forces to deal with both high intensity and low intensity conflicts. Under the high intensity category, it would mean retaining the ability to intervene in a conflict, such as in Europe. "Since the government has made it quite clear that Britain will continue to play a leading part in Nato, that implies we have to retain the capability to counter a high intensity attack," a senior army source said.

Sources said that the review was being handled in three phases. The first was nearly completed. Each service chief was required to give military judgment on the wisdom of certain options. The second stage, decision-making by ministers, was under way. The third stage would follow the government announcement and would involve staffs from all three services.

Army chiefs are prepared for a cut in the British Army of the Rhine of up to 50 per cent, although as yet they have been given no indication of the way ministers are thinking.

The service chiefs have taken comfort from statements made in the past by Tony Blair, the defence secretary, that the government's intention was to have "smaller but better" armed forces.

According to sources, Gen Chapple is prepared to have an "even smaller" army than envisaged if it means an all-round improvement in equipment, accommodation and conditions. One item on his list was the need to improve the army's estate.

## A brief lesson in interviewing from the master

By RICHARD EVANS, MEDIA EDITOR



SIR Robin Day was almost lost for words yesterday as the BBC published a ten-point guide on how broadcast interviews should be conducted.

Sir Robin, who has been more successful than most at extracting unpalatable truths from public figures, produced his own ten-point plan in 1961 — and last night he was in no doubt as to whose advice was the more pertinent.

The BBC guide runs to ten pages with such phrases as "Not all interviews will be challenging". Sir Robin confined his code to one page. "When compared with the much more ponderous document, you will see what is the wisest thought on the subject," he said.

A summary of the BBC guidelines produced undisputedly by the doyen of television interviews. The first guideline states: "Programme editors are responsible for devising systems for ensuring that all interviews are well-prepared and con-

ducted." "What a load of pap," said Sir Robin. The document continues: "Every interview should have a clear and specific purpose." "Good God," he said.

Hearing "contentious views on all sides should be tested with equal rigour and uniformity of tone", Sir Robin could contain himself no longer. "I wrote 10 short sentences which covered most eventualities. The Ten Commandments didn't need 10 pages and they covered the whole of human conduct."

The Day guide was written after his first five years as a television interviewer. "The idea was to set down principles which could help to achieve a balance between satisfying critical public interest and enabling people interviewed, be they statesmen or strikers, to make their case."

He should set his own prejudices aside and put questions which reflect various opinions, disregarding probable accusations of bias.

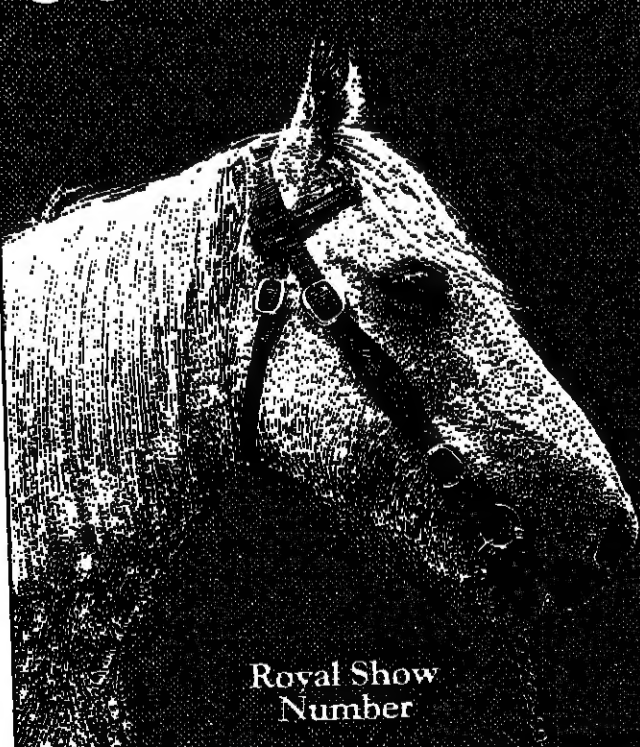
Sir Robin said yesterday: "It is perfectly up to date, with one exception. The code refers to the interviewer as he. It should now be he or she."

The guidelines approved by the BBC board of governors are said to be intended as a public statement of intent about BBC interviewing practices, and as useful guidance, particularly for new producers and reporters. Mr John Birt, the BBC deputy director general whose distinctive philosophy and phraseology is reflected in the guidelines, said: "The new guideline should encourage sharp and considered, but always courteous, interviewing on the BBC. It is a reminder to everyone of basic values."

Sir Robin will not have to follow the new code. He now works for British Satellite Broadcasting.

## In our Royal Show Number

### COUNTRY LIFE



Royal Show Number

- Why only 1,000 British farmers have gone organic
  - Struggling to save the National Fruit Collections
  - Economic pressures on upland farmers
  - ELMS: the new buzz word in agriculture
  - The perfect country house
  - Recreating an eighteenth century banquet
- Plus the usual informed cover of the arts, property, antiques, wildlife, sport and fashion.

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EVERY THURSDAY





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## Appeal court rules against challenge to poll tax

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## Appeal court rules against challenge to poll tax cap

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

CHRIS Patten, the environment secretary, is to go ahead with measures to cap the poll tax levied by 19 Labour-controlled councils even though the House of Lords has yet to rule on the legality of his action.

Although Mr Patten has the legal right to issue the capping orders at any time, he has stayed his hand while the councils have unsuccessfully sought to challenge capping in both the High Court and the Court of Appeal.

The decision to lay the formal capping orders before Parliament within the next fortnight follows a ruling by the Court of Appeal yesterday upholding Mr Patten's action in designating the 19 councils for capping. The councils were given leave to take their case to the House of Lords.

Mr Patten has decided to act because of a failure to win parliamentary approval for the capping orders before the House rises for its summer break at the end of July would mean that no action could be taken before MPs reassemble in mid-October. Ministers are

keen to end the uncertainty over the standing of the capped authorities.

The timing of yesterday's decision by the appeal court surprised all involved. Lord Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Gibson and Lord Justice Taylor had indicated that they would reserve judgment at the end of a seven day hearing. Instead Lord Donaldson simply announced: "We are unanimously of the opinion that the appeals should be dismissed."

Reasons for the decision would be given later. Lord Donaldson said they had come to the conclusion that they should give their decision straight away "because of the very tight timetable which faces not only the secretary of state but also the local authorities".

The 19 authorities had argued that Mr Patten had exceeded his powers and acted unfairly when he went ahead with his capping proposals and that capping would mean big cuts, particularly in education.

The appeal judges rejected the councils' arguments and also upheld an earlier ruling that budgets already given to schools could be cut retrospectively. The teaching unions have said that this could lead to the sacking of up to 2,000 teachers and chaos in schools.

Lord Donaldson commented that the earlier High Court ruling had been called "a vindication of government policy". He said: "We would like to make it clear that neither the Divisional Court nor this court have been concerned with the merits or demerits of the policy of introducing the community charge, or with the merits or demerits of the policy of the designation of all or any of the local authorities for charge capping purposes."

"The sole concern of both courts has been first to determine whether the secretary of state has been acting within the authority given to him by parliament and whether he has exceeded that authority."

Granting leave to appeal to the House of Lords, he said: "This is only the first year the scheme has been operated and it may be that the views of the House of Lords will assist in avoiding further challenges."

The hearing before the law lords could begin on Monday, court officials said. The 19 councils involved in the action are: Avon, Barnsley, Basildon, Brent, Bristol, Calderdale, Camden, Derbyshire, Doncaster, Greenwich, Hammersmith, Haringey, Islington, Lambeth, North Tyneside, Rochdale, Rotherham, St Helens and Southwark.

## Edinburgh levy may rise 42%

POLL tax payers in Lothian region could face a 42 per cent increase in their bills next year, it was claimed yesterday (Andrew Collier writes).

The regional council said swingeing rises would be necessary because of the high level of non-payment and shortfalls in central government grants. If implemented, the increases would take the Lothian regional poll tax figure from £311 a year to £453. That does not include the charge levied by district councils or the water board.

Even if the district and water charges were frozen next year, such an increase would take the total bill for Edinburgh to £570.

David Begg, chairman of Lothian's finance committee, admitted he was presenting the worst possible scenario. He had based his assessment on an assumption that inflation would remain at 10 per cent, income from government at 6 per cent and that 10 per cent of the poll tax would be unpaid.

The Labour-controlled council is considering spending cuts for this year. The council's Conservative group described the projected increase in the charge as atrocious.

## Tin mine investors may count the cost

By DOUGLAS BROOM

A CORNISH tin mine company which claimed to offer investors immunity from poll tax under a 482-year-old law, was placed in the hands of a receiver by the High Court yesterday.

Royal Cornish Consols United Tin Mines Cost Book Company, founded by Fred Trull, a retired businessman, of Lerryn, Cornwall, sought to exploit a charter granted by Henry VII in 1508 exempting Cornish tin miners or anyone with a stake in a tin mine from English taxes.

At yesterday's hearing, Mr Arthur Charles, for the trade and industry department, said that people who invested in £1 shares in the company were potentially liable for any debts incurred by the firm.

"They could lose considerably more than £1.50 (including 50p administration fee). It may well be the case that the majority, if not all, of the members of the public who sent off for a share certificate have taken the view that it is worth gambling £1.50 on whether or not Mr Trull is right. But they have done it in innocence of the potential liability," Mr Charles told Mr

Justice Mummery that the department had launched court proceedings against Mr Trull to protect investors. In March, the High Court granted injunctions freezing the activities of Mr Trull's company pending a full hearing of the case.

Mr Charles said the department decided to return to court to ask for a receiver to be appointed after it learnt that Mr Trull had breached part of the injunctions by continuing to pay in investors' cheques.

Mr Trull had argued that, under the 1508 charter, laws made at Westminster were invalid in Cornwall unless ratified by the Cornish Stannary Parliament. Counsel told the judge that the Stannary Parliament, representing those in tin mining, had appointed its own receiver on Monday to run the company.

The judge, appointing a receiver, said there was evidence that Mr Trull had not given a full account of the whereabouts of money paid to him by investors. He did not rule on the validity of Mr Trull's claim that an investment in his company offered exemption from the poll tax.



Some of the treasures rescued from the fire that swept through Dropmore House, Buckinghamshire, during the garden yesterday. The blaze last week, believed to be the biggest in the Home Counties for years, caused damage estimated at £50 million at the mansion owned by Sheikh Muhammad bin Fahd al-Tajer, former ambassador to Britain of the United Arab Emirates and one of the world's richest men. During the day-long blaze, priceless art treasures and antiques, including six gold chairs and hundreds of statues and paintings, were salvaged. Bulldozers were brought in yesterday to demolish the east side of the 50-room house. Other parts of the listed building may also have to be pulled down once surveyors have assessed the wreckage. Last night, Detective Sergeant Paul Hunter of Thames Valley Police, who has been leading the investigation, said there were no suspicious circumstances surrounding the fire.

## Women failing to reach professions' ruling elites

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

### Women in the Professions

Profession	Total number of qualified members	% women
Actuaries	3,236	5.6
Architects	31,099	7.82
(world-wide)		
Barriers	5,994	21.1
Chartered accountants	50,506	22.2
Dentists	24,486	22.2
Engineers	279,338	0.5
GPs	28,793	22.4
Optometrists	2,170	31.5
Patent agents	1,260	6.9
Pharmacists	31,532	40
Solicitors	69,653	21.4
Surgeons	11,405	3.2
Surveyors	82,178	5.7
Veterinary surgeons	10,576	25.3

WOMEN are breaking into the professions in growing numbers but have still scarcely penetrated their governing bodies, according to a report published yesterday by the 14 leading professions in the United Kingdom.

The report, the first on the position of women in the main professions, shows that on average women only make up 17.5 per cent of the members in the professions, although they have been able to join for at least the past 70 years. Their numbers are smaller in the professions' ruling bodies: on average they make up only 8.9 per cent of members.

The report, by a working party of the United Kingdom Inter-Professional Group, shows that women are entering the professions in growing numbers and in cases such as solicitors, they account for a big share of the entrants. Most professions do not yet have policies geared to the needs of women professionals such as part-time work or career breaks. The professions, the report says, have not yet come to terms with developing policies which will suit the career needs of women. Few have specific measures in place which help women although the situation is changing fast.

Yesterday Linda Packard, the solicitor who chaired the working party, called for the adoption by the professions of policies to help women. "All the professions combined to form these recommendations and this has been a major step forward. We will go on to take further steps." The report gives a breakdown of the number of women in each profession. In engineering,

which has 279,338 members, only 0.5 per cent are women. Of the 11,405 surgeons, only 3.2 per cent are women.

Barbara Stephens, member of the Engineering Council, said: "Young women were rejecting careers as engineers because they felt they could not combine it with child care." However 22 per cent of the 28,793 general practitioners are women, and 23 per cent of the 24,486 dentists. Among 31,532 pharmacists, they account for 40 per cent.

Dr Molly McBridge has become the first female secretary to the council for the Royal College of General Practitioners. "There is a growing need for women doctors. More patients ask for women doctors and the British Medical Association has tried to promote the idea of at least one women doctor in every practice, although it doesn't work out that way."

The numbers of women on the ruling councils vary from one at present in the Institute of Actuaries to 11 on the General Council of the Bar.

The average of 8.9 per cent does not reflect their numbers in the professions. "Women are still not represented proportionally in the decision-

making process," the report says.

Although nearly all professions have an association of women members, there are exceptions: accountants, barristers and optometrists. None of these associations has a right to appoint members to their professional ruling bodies.

The report recommends the professions to use its findings as a basis for action and for policies which will promote part-time work and career break schemes.

"This is a pioneering study which will promote opportunities for professional women around the country. The professional bodies and others will be able to see for the first time how women are treated and progress in different fields and this should be a spur to wider opportunities for women everywhere."

The report predicts that the shortage of schools leavers in the 1990s will force more professions to develop policies geared towards recruiting and retaining women.

Women in the professions: a report from the UK Inter-professional group (Law Society Sheet 227 The Sunday, London WC2R 1BA; £4.95)

## Methodist leader urges continuing sanctions support

By RUTH GLEDHILL

The leader of two million Methodists in Southern Africa appealed yesterday for sanctions to remain unchanged.

The Rev Dr Stanley Mogoba, Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church in Southern Africa, said at the Methodist Conference in Cardiff: "Apartheid is still there. It would be unfortunate if we disturbed the process of change."

Dr Mogoba, from Durban, Natal, who was imprisoned in Robben Island with Nelson Mandela for three years and who later became Mr Mandela's minister, received a standing ovation after his moving description of problems facing the church.

"In Mozambique, part of our conference jurisdiction, people have been subjected to indescribable violence and suffering."

In 1988, he said, it was estimated that one million civilians were killed in eight months. 4.5 million civilians were displaced resulting in 35,000 refugees fleeing into South Africa. Nearly 600 rural health posts and health centres were destroyed, and more than 700 schools and 300 miles of high-tension power lines.

"Apartheid has divided us into black, white, coloured and Indian churches despite our clear policy of a one and undivided church," he said.

He said: "Black South Africa is not an island, it is part of the world and part of the problems of the world."

"The problems in South Africa are only the tip of the iceberg. We should not fail in South Africa because if we fail there, there should be little hope of success anywhere else."

The right wing is gaining momentum. We have to move quickly otherwise we will not see it through."

The Rev Dr Donald English, conference president, told Dr Mogoba: "You must forgive us for the way we are unthinkingly continue racism and colonialism without even knowing we are doing it."

He said the views expressed through British policy "are not always the things that we want or believe."

The Rev Dr Leslie Griffiths, head of the West London Mission, said: "It is a challenge to us to attempt to measure some response."

The Rev Hewlett Andrew, of London southwest district, said: "In this country we suffer from racism. If anyone here pretends that it is getting better let me say that person is blind, ill-informed or misinformed."

The Rev Ronald Smith, of London northeast, said: "We must not use South Africa as an excuse for failing to face up to racism that is a day-to-day experience of men and women in this country."

The bishop's call for no change on sanctions came the day after the conference supported the principle of a boycott of South African gold and urged all clergy, Methodist and otherwise to bring to the attention of couples seeking church marriage the availability of non-South African gold wedding rings.

## Gummer promises more cash for BSE research

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

A FOURTH cat, from Leicestershire, has died from a brain disorder similar to mad cow disease, John Gummer, the agriculture minister, told the Commons agriculture select committee inquiry into the disease yesterday.

Mr Gummer said that, if necessary, more money would be made available for research into bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) and also vigorously defended the independence of scientists advising the government on how to combat the disease.

The committee began its hearings on May 23. Yesterday's hearing was the last, and the committee, chaired by Jerry Wiggin, Conservative MP for Weston-super-Mare, will prepare a report for publication next month.

The latest cat death posed no public health risks whatsoever, Keith Meldrum, the government's chief veterinary officer, said after the hearing. He said there was no pattern between the four cases and it was pure conjecture that pet food containing infected offal might have been the cause.

The brains of 31 cats which had died from unexplained nervous symptoms had been examined, Mr Meldrum said. Four had a spongiform encephalopathy, more than 20 had no such lesions and results of tests on the rest were pending.

Mr Gummer told the inquiry that he had assured David Tyrell, the virologist leading the scientific panel advising the government on BSE, that more money beyond the £12.3 million allocated over the next three years for research into BSE transmission would be found if required. Mr Gummer rejected a suggestion by Eric Marlow, Labour MP for Carlisle, that he had pressured Dr Tyrell into issuing a statement last month saying there was no need to ban breeding from off-spring of BSE-infected cows.

Mr Gummer said that his own instinct had been to ban breeding from such animals, but he needed to have scientific justification and had therefore asked the Tyrell committee for a view. There had been no attempt to dictate what that view should be.

Stephen Dorrell, a junior health minister, said it was an unjustified slur on eminent scientists to suppose that they could be pressured into providing the answers the government wanted.

Meanwhile, the Institute of Biologists has urged the government to treat with extreme caution statements that BSE poses no health risk to humans. The institute says that abattoirs should have a veterinary officer permanently on the premises, that offal banned for cattle and human consumption should also be banned in pig and poultry feed, and that the pedigree of all cattle should be recorded.

## Art dealers give £360,000 to gallery

MICHAEL POWELL



Mr MacGregor (left) and Mr Agnew at the dealers' premises in Old Bond Street, central London, for the announcement of the £360,000 gift to the art gallery

AGNEW'S, the London art dealers, are contributing £360,000 towards redecorating the National Gallery, in the largest single gift made by a picture dealer to a national museum for generations (Sarah Jane Checkland writes).

Julian Agnew, the company's managing director, said: "I hope it is an example of the art trade doing something very positive for a great national institution." The money will go towards redecorating the biggest room in the gallery, room 32, whose condition, according to Mr Neil MacGregor, the gallery's director, "has been a scandal for many years".

The room will close from September and reopen early next year to coincide with the hanging of the new Sainsbury wing, housing the 17th century collection. Room 32 will be reborn with Italian Baroque paintings.

## Nuns on the run from neighbours seek £1.75m windfall

By CRAIG SETON

THE Sisters of Poor Clares, an order of 20 nuns devoted to lives of simplicity and prayer, could make £1.75 million from the sale of their convent next to the SAS headquarters near Hereford.

The windfall is expected when the sisters move from their 100-year-old convent, set in seven acres, and seek a more tranquil home. Although the nuns are untroubled by the practice of the SAS, they are leaving to escape a development of 164 homes planned near by.

councillors gave the sisters outline planning permission for residential development on the convent site at Lower Bullingham, on the southeast outskirts of Hereford, and close to the SAS base at Stirling Lines. The decision means the land will be worth up to £250,000 an acre.

The sisters needed to raise the value of the land to pay for a new convent elsewhere in Hereford and Worcester. They belong to an order founded in Bruges, Belgium, and lead an almost self-sufficient life. They own no vehicles, grow their own vegetables and fruit, and spend only £150 a month on other

groceries for all 20 sisters. Their only income is from the manufacture of communion wafers.

The application was opposed by local archaeologists, who say the convent was the site of a medieval settlement that could yield deposits of national importance. Malcolm Cooper, the county's archaeology officer, told the meeting that planning permission should be refused to allow excavation of earthworks on a third of the site that could give information about medieval Bullingham and other villages in the county.

Nigel Dees, the convent's archi-

tect, said the sisters' privacy seemed assured until permission was given for the new homes only 40 ft from the convent walls. Residents would be able to see into the windows and grounds of the convent. He said: "It creates major difficulties for the community and will severely inhibit their ability to carry on with the contemplative life. The sisters feel the only solution would be to move and build a new convent in a private situation."

After the meeting, Mother Veronica, aged 63, the mother superior, said: "We have no idea how much money we will get. We do not want

to make money. We just want enough to build a convent. We can hear the SAS guns going off but that has not worried us. But they gave planning permission for houses right on top of our convent and we feel it is going to take away our privacy. We now want to get about five acres of land. Any money that is left over will be given to the Roman Catholic church."

The planning committee said that before there was any development of the convent site, the county museum's archaeology department should be allowed to carry out excavations.

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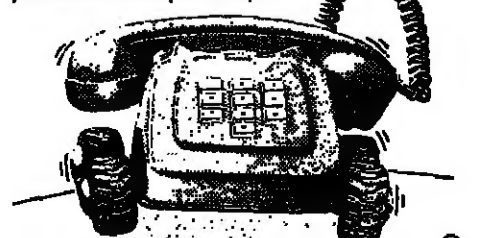
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## Energy select committee report on the cost of nuclear power

## MPs attack secrecy over true price of reactors

Parliament and the public were misled for years into believing that nuclear energy meant cheap electricity. The truth was very different, Sheila Gunn reports

THE government's failed attempt to privatise Britain's nuclear power stations exposed how Parliament and the public had been deceived by successive administrations into believing nuclear energy offered the cheapest source of electricity.

The Commons energy committee based its investigation on figures previously kept a closely guarded secret but brought into the open during the privatisation exercise. But even now that nuclear reactors have been withdrawn from the sale, the MPs argue that many of the true costs of building, running and decommissioning a reactor are not known.

The report says: "After years of official assurances that nuclear power was (or could be) the cheapest form of electricity generation, Parliament and the public are entitled to know why it was only when faced with the commercial discipline of life in the private sector that nuclear power (from both existing and proposed reactors) suddenly became an expensive form of generation."

When ministers review the

nuclear programme in 1994, they must not gloss over the economics of nuclear power. That analysis should be exposed to public examination and debate before decisions are made on whether to build any new nuclear reactors, the committee says.

"Since nuclear power will be trading in an artificial market and will be subsidised by both consumers and taxpayers, there can be no argument for commercial confidentiality and we will have no hesitation in using our power to send for papers if we consider that the information provided by Nuclear Electric or Scottish Nuclear Limited is inadequate."

The committee found it still impossible to put a true figure on the cost or price of nuclear power. It concludes that "even in the public sector the UK's nuclear power is now considerably dearer than fossil-fired generation". Figures presented at public enquiries have been far too low because they did not take into account, for instance, the fact that sites of extinct reactors will not be usable for 100 years.

"We reject the view of the Central Electricity Generating Board/National Power and the department that the cost of electricity from a reactor could be almost doubled by privatisation and we are profoundly concerned that the CEBG should have put forward a low figure to a public enquiry in support of the case for a major public investment and one almost twice as high shortly afterwards for power from the same reactor in the private sector."

The committee, with a Tory majority, concludes that the privatisation exercise and the eventual decision last autumn to keep nuclear power stations in the public sector "may well have done severe damage to the nuclear industry" which remained of importance as an option for meeting Britain's long-term energy needs.

The report disclosed that the CEBG's accounts for the ageing Magnox stations alone rose from £2.8 billion in March 1988 to £6.9 billion in March 1989. Reprocessing costs increased five-fold in real terms in the 10 years up to 1988.

The fuel cycle costs of the advanced gas-cooled reactors are cheaper but the stations are particularly expensive to build. Heysham I, Hartlepool and Dungeness B stations had been badly affected by extra costs. Performance of Hinkley Point B and Heysham II had been slightly better.

The committee found the estimate of generating costs for pressurised water reactors given by the CEBG at a public enquiry was nearly one third less than Lord Marshall's later estimate of a private sector price. "It is clear to us that different rates of return in the public and private sectors for investments involving similar risk are an invitation to misallocate resources by spending money on relatively high risk, low return public projects."

## Battle of wills over move to private sector

By DAVID YOUNG

THE government's plans to privatise the electricity industry brought into conflict two men who each had the ear and admiration of the prime minister.

Lord Marshall of Goring had always impressed Margaret Thatcher with his intellect and his dogged support for nuclear power, and she had made it clear that she was eternally grateful to him for keeping the nation's lights on during the 12-month miners' strike.

Cecil Parkinson, on the other hand, had been architect of her election victory and she brought him back into the cabinet because she believed he was one of the few men who could explain clearly and concisely the government's policies to the public.

However, the two men had different views on how the electricity industry should move into the private sector. It was on a winter Saturday while England was playing Wales at Twickenham — ironically, in a fixture sponsored by British Gas — that Mr Parkinson, then energy secretary, visited Mrs Thatcher and

her husband relaxing at Chequers and left after persuading the prime minister to back his privatisation plans.

Officials at the energy department had made Mr Parkinson aware that the way in which British Gas had been allowed to move into the private sector, retaining its virtual monopoly position, could not be repeated with the electricity industry without causing a political outcry.

Lord Marshall never recovered from the blow of seeing his formula, under which the Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB) would have remained a large generating monolith with control of the national grid, kicked into touch. He complained bitterly to the prime minister but his personal loyalty ensured that he worked hard to implement the Parkinson proposals.

The energy secretary wanted to divide the CEGB into two generating companies and hand over control of the national grid to the 12 regional electricity boards.

Lord Marshall was partly placated



Parkinson (left) and Marshall: unable to see eye to eye about the role of the Central Electricity Generating Board in a privatised power industry when National Power, the larger of the two generators created of which he was made chairman-designate, was given control of the country's nuclear power network.

However, Mr Parkinson, who was increasingly being seen by many in

He took the first generation

Magnox nuclear power stations out of the privatisation programme and left John Wakeham, his successor, with the problem of how the remaining advanced gas-cooled stations and the pressurised water-cooled station being built at Sizewell in Suffolk should be sold. Mr Wakeham grasped that nettle quickly and firmly and announced that they would also remain in state ownership leaving Lord Marshall, the father of the nuclear power programme, with little alternative but to resign.

In spite of his differences with Mr Parkinson, it is unlikely that Lord Marshall will take any satisfaction from seeing him criticised so severely by the energy select committee: it was a decision by Mr Wakeham which prompted him to resign and Lord Marshall's complaint was not that privatisation did not include nuclear power, but that it was going ahead largely according to the Parkinson blueprint.

Lord Marshall had told the energy select committee: "I have spent my life attempting to persuade the country of the benefits of nuclear power. I feel I have failed."

## Estimate of costs 'no more than perfunctory'

By OUR POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Commons energy committee challenges the recent claim by John Wakeham, the energy secretary, that the cost of power from Sizewell B will be cheaper than from a new coal-fired station.

The committee says that the department of energy made no more than a perfunctory estimate of the costs of continuing or cancelling Sizewell B, the only pressurised water reactor (PWR) still in the government's nuclear programme.

Even if the Suffolk reactor is completed, its running costs are likely to be higher than forecast and its financial viability will have to be reassessed. Another reason for higher than estimated running costs is because many one-off components will eventually need replacing and some will no longer be made.

The committee concludes: "We recommend that, as a matter of urgency, the department or Nuclear Electric estimate the costs of continuing and cancelling Sizewell B during its intended life compared with the costs of cancelling it and generating the same power from other sources, and that, insofar as continuation is justified by non-economic benefits, comparison be made with the cost of alternative ways of achieving those benefits." Mr

Wakeham, in a letter in *The Times* yesterday, said: "The cost of power from Sizewell B is above that from a new gas-fired station, but only marginally so, and is well below that from a new coal-fired station."

However, the committee says: "It is now clear that electricity from Sizewell B will be substantially dearer than that from coal-fired stations, contrary to the conclusions of the inquiry inspector on whose recommendation construction was approved."

In evidence, the department of energy said the economic arguments were marginal. An official told the committee that the decision to go ahead with Sizewell was a policy decision by ministers to keep open the PWR option. Later, however, he cited reduced emissions as a further reason.

The committee said: "We regard it as unfortunate that the benefits of reduced emissions should be used to justify policies in this piecemeal manner rather than as part of a coherent strategy to reduce emissions through the best possible use of the limited resources available." In a report earlier this month the committee criticised the government's abandonment of its commitment to fit filters to all big coal-fired power stations to reduce harmful emissions.



The pressurised water-cooled Sizewell B nuclear power station, a central issue in the MPs' report, rising on the Suffolk coast. Estimated to cost £2 billion, it is due for completion in 1994. Lord Marshall, father of the nuclear power programme, resigned when it was announced that nuclear plants would stay in state ownership.

## Parkinson and Rifkind censured for ignoring warnings

By SHEILA GUNN

CECIL Parkinson ignored warnings about problems in privatising nuclear power while he was the energy secretary and allowed the detailed scrutiny of the electricity bill to start despite the lack of financial, commercial and operational detail, the Commons energy committee says. The result was the collapse of the programme for building four pressurised water reactors and a new structure for the generating industry which will make it more difficult to inject competition.

The report's damning indictment of Mr Parkinson's handling of the electricity privatisation proposals before his transfer to the transport department also extends to Malcolm Rifkind, the Scottish secretary, who

is in charge of the Scottish nuclear industry. The committee split over the strength of its criticism of Mr Parkinson, with several Tory MPs insisting that it was toned down before finalising the report. In the draft report of the chairman, Michael Clark, Mr Parkinson's handling of the proposals was described as *dilettante*. However, the unanimous report still censures him and the department's financial advisers, Kleinwort Benson.

The report says: "The Secretary of State for Energy during most of the privatisation process was Mr Parkinson. Despite warnings from this committee and independent commentators about difficulties inherent in privatising nuclear power, and reservations expressed by the Central Electricity Generating Board about the fragmentation

of the electricity supply industry, he embarked on a policy for which it is now known inadequate preparation had been made, failed to obtain the information needed to ascertain whether the policy would work, gave insufficient priority to nuclear issues which were central to the whole privatisation scheme, paid too little attention to the two conditions for success laid down by the department's financial advisers, and allowed this major aspect of privatisation to remain unresolved until it was too late to revise the distribution of generating assets to which it had given rise."

"The conduct of this aspect of the privatisation amounted to the restructuring of one of Britain's largest and most strategic industries in an ill-prepared manner." The Tory-dominated committee insisted

that the criticism should cover successive energy secretaries for pressing ahead with an expansion of nuclear power without finding out the true costs. "It would be unfair to suggest that responsibility lies with Mr Parkinson alone."

The manner in which the department supervised the CEGB is described as inadequate. In July 1988 the committee warned the government that it ran the risk of producing ill-considered, spatchcock legislation for the sale of the electricity supply industry. The government replied that it had no intention of taking any gambles with the industry. The report says: "Subsequent events have fulfilled our fears. We find it extraordinary that the department thinks it right to take a bill into committee with so little financial, commercial and

operational detail worked out." The committee also says: "The present Secretary of State for Scotland (Malcolm Rifkind) has been in office throughout the privatisation and carries responsibility for the Scottish nuclear industry. The Scottish Office appears to have made errors similar to those of the Department of Energy."

Alex Salmond, SNP MP and a member of the committee, said: "The report provides yet another indictment of Rifkind's management of the Scottish Office."

The committee says it is not satisfied that the energy department was well advised by Kleinwort Benson. The advisers should have given a warning before November 1989 that National Power could not be floated without transferring most of the risk to the government.

## BR tip becomes wildlife reserve

A BRITISH Rail tip, which closed in 1983 after the discovery of large quantities of blue asbestos, has reopened as a nature reserve.

The 100-acre reserve, at Barlow Common, North Yorkshire, is a joint venture between Selby district council, the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and the Countryside Commission. It lies in the shadow of Drax power station and has been part funded by National Power.

The land in the reserve was for centuries poor marshy ground used for grazing. It was first used as a tip in the Thirties when the then owners, the London & North Eastern Railway, allowed the dumping of fish waste from Grimsby dock. It continued to be licensed for inert waste under British Rail ownership until 1983, when blue asbestos from old railway engines and carriages was discovered.

Mr Richard Hands, Selby council's countryside management officer, said: "The Yorkshire Wildlife Trust had already alerted us to the wildlife potential of the site when we took ownership of the land from British Rail in 1986."

Although the site was still at an early stage it was already important for birds and flowers, he said. "We have for instance a wide range of wild

flowers — everything from the common spotted orchid to the early evening primrose and viper's bugloss."

The reserve, which comprises 80 acres of land owned by the council and 20 acres leased from British Rail, includes four ponds and a large newly created lake. Reed beds which surround the water have attracted several species of warbler. A total of 130 bird species, including lesser spotted woodpeckers, and spotted redshank, have been sighted in the reserve.

Facilities include a visitor centre largely funded by the Countryside Commission and National Power, which has contributed £16,000. There are plans to erect more hides for the 20,000 bird-watchers Selby council hopes will visit the reserve each year.

Mr Hands said the site was one of several environmental projects set up by the council. "We don't have a statutory duty to do this kind of thing, but I think we have a moral obligation."

"The land in this area of North Yorkshire is so intensively farmed that we have one of the smallest ecological resources in the county. I think the reserve will have regional significance as an oasis for wildlife in the middle of a vast area of managed land."

## Controls urged on exotic fish to protect native species

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

STRICT controls on the introduction of exotic fish and shellfish into British waters are needed to prevent native species being wiped out, the Commons agriculture committee says in a report published today. A plague among wild crayfish has already been blamed on crayfish imported into fish farms.

The report calls for more research on the threat of environmental pollution from the 45,000 tonnes of fish farmed

in Britain each year. However, the MPs found no evidence that the pollution had reached a level which warranted restrictions on the industry.

The report also recommends that no more fish farming be allowed in national parks without planning permission. The committee urges greater accountability in handling applications for marine fish farming but stops short of calling for planning controls to be handed over to local coun-

cils. The committee says: "We appreciate that some may find cages, rafts and associated structures unattractive but are persuaded that fish farming plays an important role in sustaining remote communities. With sensitive planning, developments can be accommodated without spoiling enjoyment of the landscape and amenity for others."

Scotland, with its clean waters and sheltered lochs, is poised for a big growth in shellfish production and should be helped to find new markets. The report finds that, by comparison, the salmon market has been overheated in recent years with many producers reporting losses.

The MPs also question the monopoly powers of the Crown Estate as regulators and beneficiaries of the fish farming industry. "How can the Crown Estate commissioners be regarded as independent arbiters if they have a commercial interest in the outcome of their decisions?" asked the committee, pointing out that the Crown Estate makes an annual profit of £372,000 from granting leases.

*Fish Farming in the UK* (House of Commons agriculture committee 4th report. Stationery Office, £6.45)

## Jail for gunmen

Three Dublin men who took part in an attempted armed robbery in which an accomplice was shot dead by police were each jailed for 12 years by the Special Criminal Court in Dublin yesterday.

Brendan Walsh, aged 33, William Gardiner, aged 36, and Thomas Tynan, aged 29, admitted having a firearm to rob the Bank of Ireland in Athy, co Kildare, on January 12 this year. Mr Justice Liam Hamilton told the men: "This is a most serious offence which is too prevalent in our society."

## Second first

The second of two blind sisters has won a first-class honours degree in law. Jane Lawson, aged 20, has been awarded a degree by the University of Wales, Cardiff, two years after her sister Anna won a first at Leeds University.

## Oil rig contract

SULF Engineering of Lowestoft, Suffolk, has won a multi-million pound contract to build a five-storey, 2,750 tonne accommodation module for the new BP Bruce oil platform off the Shetland Isles, creating 150 new jobs.

## Selby job cuts

British Gypsum is cutting 60 more jobs at its factory near Selby, North Yorkshire, after 130 redundancies at the end of last year. The firm blamed the housebuilding slump.

## Mystery death

Police are trying to identify a man who died when he lost control of his 50cc moped after brushing past a wall on an unmade flint track in Lavant, East Sussex.

## Damages award

Robert Welch, aged 42 and a father of two, won £28,000 damages in the High Court yesterday after his wife Jennifer was killed by a tree falling on her car.

## Priest accused

Gulam Rasool Chishti, a Muslim priest aged 47 from Southall, west London, was committed for trial at crown court, accused of raping and indecently assaulting a girl aged 15.

## Rackets charge

George Styles, aged 30, of London, was remanded in custody by Marylebone magistrates' court, charged with stealing 400 tennis rackets from BBC publicity offices.

## Jewels haul

Raiders stole parcels holding £10,000 of jewellery and cash from a Post Office van in Maidenhead, Berkshire.

## Rising costs

The anticipated cost of a planned second Severn Bridge has risen by 7 per cent to £395 million.

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"Live export of animals must be banned now — all Europe must show compassion"  
DAVID BELLAMY

"Animals are not agricultural products. CIWF are to be supported in their efforts to have this recognised by the European Community"  
JULIE CHRISTIE

"Homo sapiens are in danger of becoming homo perditor (wise man/man the destroyer). The grass-roots of this horrendous malpractice is Greed"  
PETER CUSHING, OBE

"We must all take up the fight to protect farm animals and horses from being subjected to barbaric practices after 1992"  
BARBARA DICKSON

"Instead of caving in to these retrograde EEC regulations we should be setting a firm example to the rest of the community"  
CLARE FRANCIS, MBE

"We must not condone, by a lack of interest and concern, the inhumane and barbarous treatment meted out to some of our farm animals"  
PENELOPE KEITH, OBE

"I'm only too happy to endorse your aims and to wish you every success in securing the fulfilment of your endeavours."  
MATTHEW KELLY

"One can only support attempts to stop the cruel trade of exporting live animals."  
SPIKE MILLIGAN

"I pledge my support to an organisation that is dedicated to the care and protection of animals; as they are in our care and should not be abused — lest we be abused."  
HAYLEY MILLS

"Where are the voices of those employed on these boats which carry these sad and cruelly treated animals? These practices diminish man — we must stand for them until we are heard"  
CARLA LANE, OBE

"The export of live food animals means an end to all pretence about humane slaughter"  
THE REV DR. ANDREW LINZEY

"It's time to shut our ears to the excuses given by people who have only money in mind. . . . If you do not condemn it — you condone it!"  
JOANNA LUMLEY

"Compassion in World Farming is striving to alert us to this sorry future — and that is what 1992 should really be about — more understanding, more caring — and compassion"  
VIRGINIA McKENNA

"No demand, no supply . . . Good luck"  
LINDA MCCARTNEY

"If the human race is not going to abrogate all responsibility towards all sentient animals time is running out. It is vital to act now"  
PETER O'SULLIVAN, OBE

"Can it really be true that this country of ours, great at times, is going to allow the renewal of the atrocities that exist with the export of live animals for slaughter?"  
CAROL ROYLE

"If all these proposals are accepted, all those people concerned will come out of it with the utmost discredit — will we ever learn?"  
DAVID SHEPHERD, OBE

# STOP LIVE ANIMAL EXPORTS NOW

© JOHN WILKINSON



Dying British sheep on arrival at Spanish abattoir

Over 1 million animals a year are exported from the UK to foreign slaughterhouses, to factory farms and to experimental laboratories.

Compassion in World Farming calls on the Minister of Agriculture to take the strongest action to stop the current animal export of half a million sheep and lambs, 300,000

calves and 100,000 pigs and to refuse to recommence the trade in horses for slaughter in 1992.

Article 36 of the Treaty of Rome allows trade restrictions on grounds of public policy or morality. CIWF believes the Government could invoke Article 36 to ban this trade in suffering.

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# Howe is left out in cold on manifesto

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

Relations between Margaret Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe are not likely to be improved by arrangements being set in train for the Conservative election manifesto. Once again John Wakeham, already given charge of co-ordinating government information, has been asked to co-ordinate early efforts in pulling together the policy strands that later will form the basis of the Conservative appeal to the nation.

No particular role in preparing the manifesto is planned for Sir Geoffrey, an omission that will be felt all the more keenly because the author of countless Bow Group pamphlets has always been a policy animal. Not only that, it was Sir Geoffrey who organised 70 key Conservatives into the informal policy groups which provided groundwork for the 1983 manifesto. In those "one of us" days Sir Geoffrey chaired the meeting that tackled the first draft of the manifesto, written by his then political adviser, Adam Ridley, and Ferdinand Mount, then head of the Prime Minister's policy unit. He was one of only five Cabinet ministers who saw the full text.

Sir Geoffrey figured too in the strategy group set up by Mrs Thatcher after the Westland affair in 1986 to draw together policy initiatives for the 1987 manifesto. It was that move that began the parting of the ways between her and Norman Tebbit, who had expected that he would control the process. The so-called "A-team" consisted of Willie Whitelaw, Nigel Lawson, Sir Geoffrey, Douglas Hurd, Mr Wakeham and Mr Tebbit.

The deputy prime minister's claim for a key role this time would seem to be strong, but the only man firmly pencilled in so far for the next election manifesto preparations are those of Mr Wakeham, Kenneth Baker, the party chairman, John Major, and Mr Hurd. It is hard amid the present jockeying for position to disentangle job applications and aspirations from appointments. But colleagues expect Chris Patten, draftsman of the 1989 European election manifesto, to be included, and associates of Nicholas Ridley say that his omission would be a surprise.

The Whitehall grapevine suggests that Cecil Parkinson could make something of a comeback by co-opting to the updated A-team. Mrs Thatcher has not forgotten how much more comfortable things were in 1983 with Cecil in charge at Central Office.

It is significant that Stephen Sherbourne, once her political secretary at Number 10 and now working with her advertising guru, Tim Bell, has reappeared amid the toings and fro-

ings between Number 10 and the party machine. What is most intriguing, however, after the stream-of-consciousness manifesto she produced for the Tory women's conference, is that Mrs Thatcher has determined that this time around she will herself take charge of the manifesto preparations well this side of the election. That should finally knock on the head any lingering Tory doubts about whether she will fight the next election.

The manifesto preparation process is also a guide to the timing of the next election. Talk of an election next spring is no more than an attempt to get Labour to waste some campaign funds on not being caught short. Before the 1983 election Sir Geoffrey Howe had the nine policy committees set up in the early autumn of 1982. That proved too late for their work to be fully assessed and coded in time to be fully reflected in the manifesto.

Last time policy groups working to the A-team were set up in July 1986 and reported in December 1986 so that Robin Harris, research director at Central Office, Stephen Sherbourne and Brian Griffiths, head of the Number 10 policy unit could produce the draft later polished by John O'Sullivan and Sir Ronald Miller.

This time no policy groups have been established yet. Asked when action might be taken, one Central Office source replied: "It's like ERM entry. Double the number you first thought of an add three months".

As for the contents of that manifesto when it does appear, Mrs Thatcher has given us the first clues. The Tory right is confident that there will be support for extending the re-into-motages plan from Scotland to the rest of the country and is trying for a revival of education vouchers. There will be attempts to provide better compensation for those who suffer from compulsory purchase and a rejig of local government structure.

The black holes, however, include family policy and transport, where ministers are facing the prospect of the co-ordinated national transport policy that has been resisted so long.

Finally, there is Europe. On that score Mrs Thatcher won an unofficial bonus in Dublin this week. The moves towards monetary and political union to be agreed by the inter-governmental conferences starting in December will not now have to be ratified by national parliaments until the end of 1992. That means Mrs Thatcher has the freedom to play the issue hard or soft as electoral requirements dictate until the next election.

# Moynihan onslaught on 'effluent tendency'

WORLD CUP

ENGLISH football supporters deported from Italy were condemned as the "effluent tendency" by Colin Moynihan, the sports minister, during angry exchanges in the Commons yesterday.

Mr Moynihan was accused by Denis Howell, shadow sports minister, of a monstrous mass libel on the fans. Innocent people had been deported without trial and the action of the Italian authorities was a disgrace, Mr Howell said.

Mr Moynihan told MPs that he had agreed with the president of Uefa, the governing body of European football, that it would be unwise of the government to take a view on the return of English clubs to European competitions until they were able to assess the behaviour of English supporters in the 1989-90 domestic season and throughout the World Cup. He said: "I will provide my assessment to Uefa as soon as possible".

Mr Moynihan agreed with Alex Currie (Montgomery, Lib Dem) that most English supporters had gone to Italy to enjoy a festival of football and had behaved admirably. He commended the Italians for taking tough, effective and swift police measures to contain the incidents of violence that had occurred.

Other countries would do well to put in place measures to allow them to take action against those convicted of football-related offences in the country where the match was taking

place. Britain had led the way, through the Football Spectators Act.

Alastair Burt (Bury North, C) said that the measures that Mr Moynihan had agreed with the Italian authorities in relation to Sardinia, particularly alcohol bans near the ground and on the terraces, had been effective, as had working with the football intelligence unit in identifying trouble beforehand. It was a disgrace that Mr Moynihan's efforts had been undermined by yesterday's minister who had failed to have the good grace to welcome all Mr Moynihan's efforts.

Mr Moynihan said that the government had always taken the view that it was important to be pro-competition and to work closely with the Italian authorities to put in place as many layers of deterrent as possible against hooliganism. "We have been working hard for more than 14 months and joined with the Italian authorities in more than 120 measures to deter the hooligan element."

A tiny minority of trouble-makers were still intent on hooliganism, but the government would continue to work closely with the Italians throughout the World Cup on any measures necessary to deter the hooligan element.

John Fraser (Norwood, Lab) said millions of peace-loving football fans wanted to see England back in European football. Would Mr Moynihan "play vigorously on their side" to get English football back into Europe?

Mr Moynihan said that he had made clear to Uefa that where there had been incidents of violence involving English



Colin Moynihan, who was accused by Denis Howell of a monstrous mass libel on supporters

supporters a comprehensive report, based on police evidence and that of his officials, and not on newspaper headlines, would form part of the report that would go to Uefa at the end of the World Cup.

Mr Howell said that he had requested a meeting with the president of Uefa to ensure that the president fully understood that Mr Moynihan's policies lay in ruins, as Labour had predicted, and to assure him that "the increasingly frenzied utterances of the minister, particularly about innocent people deported without trial, have no support on the opposition benches or from responsible people".

What steps was Mr Moynihan taking to tell the Italian authorities that to round up people and deport them, including even some miles away from the scene of an incident, was a disgrace? Every citizen had the right to defend himself and his reputation.

Mr Moynihan should follow the policy, on which Labour had supported him, that guilty people should be prosecuted and dealt with, but that innocent people should be presumed innocent and not rounded up like this. "I ask you to reflect on the monstrous mass libel, which you are quoted as making in the press this morning, on guilty and innocent alike, that they are motivated by criminal behaviour."

The guilty should be prosecuted and not convicted by mass libel of that sort. People who claimed that they were innocent had not been given the opportunity to prove it.

Mr Moynihan replied that when Mr Howell studied the record, "he will see that he has echoed the pleas of the louts who comprise football's effluent tendency". The government stood shoulder to shoulder with all decent people in Britain to condemn the criminally motivated minority of so-called England fans.

In an earlier question, Joe Ashton (Basseterre, Lab) said that it was 15 months since 95 people were killed at Hillsborough and three months since cash had been promised in the Budget for ground improvements. The whole system of improvements had been delayed by bureaucracy at the government department and the Home Office, who could not agree on the chairman of the committee of the football licensing authority.

Mr Moynihan said that Mr Ashton was talking nonsense. Many clubs had been responsible in moving ahead with improvements on their own account.

World Cup reports, pages 38, 39  
Graham Taylor, page 44

# 'Homes for rent' plan by minister

The government is planning to make it easier for elderly people with property to let to do so, Michael Spicer, housing and planning minister, said during question time. He was considering whether housing associations could be used to manage property for elderly landlords.

David Winnick (Walsall North, Lab) said that the government should let local authorities start house building to provide the low-rent accommodation so desperately needed.

Mr Spicer said that local authorities, particularly Labour ones, were sitting on 100,000 vacant homes. There had been little incentive for potential private landlords to bring on to the market 600,000 properties in that sector.

# Income up by 26%

Real household disposable income a head rose by 26 per cent between 1979 and last year, Margaret Thatcher said in a written reply. The average increase in pensioners' total net income was 31 per cent above inflation between 1979 and 1987.

Real output a head had risen more quickly under this government than in many other European countries, including France and Germany.

# Goodwill China visit

Francis Maude, a Foreign Office minister, told MPs in a written reply that the aim of his visit to China next month was to help to re-build good working relations over Hong Kong. The secretary of state for Hong Kong and other issues of common interest.

# Census plan

Publicity for next April's national census will be handled by the Central Office of Information, Richard Ryder, economic secretary to the Treasury, said in a Commons written reply. The census normally handles such publicity and, as with all government advertising campaigns, will be appointing an advertising agency.

# Mortgages

About 58,000 mortgages were between six months and a year in arrears at the end of last year, Richard Ryder, economic secretary, Treasury, said in a written reply. The figure represented less than 0.5 per cent of the total value of mortgages in the UK.

# Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; prime minister. Debate on the scrutiny of European legislation. Lords (3): National Health Service and Community Care Bill. Commons resumed debate on the Calcutti report on the press.

# Talks promised on health trusts

THERE will be widespread public consultation on any proposal for self-governing trusts for national health service hospitals, Kenneth Clarke, the health secretary, assured MPs.

Moving that the Commons should accept Lords amendments to the National Health Service and Community Care Bill, he emphasised that there was no question of hospitals "opting out". Nothing was going to leave the health service, he said. The proposal meant local management within the national health service.

He said that Labour had joined with some trades unions and TUC affiliates in inventing ridiculous scare stories about trust status in order to win votes. If Labour's reaction to proposals by doctors, nurses and managers for trust status was to try to terrify patients into voting Labour because of illusory fears, that would rebound on the party.

When trusts were established — the first would be established next month — local people would be providing leadership. He imagined that part way through next month, the boards on which those people would sit would be giving him and regional health authorities applications setting out what they thought they could do to raise the quality of patient care if they had the necessary autonomy.

Labour had bitterly opposed the whole idea of health service trusts. If royal assent were obtained in the next few days, he would invite applications for

# HOSPITALS

trust status. He expected that in the next month those who believed that they would be ready to be among the first trusts from April next year would apply.

He expected 70 applications in the part of the health service for which he was responsible in England, and thereafter the regional health authorities would carry out public consultation with every relevant interest.

He accused Labour of being irresponsible. The party had no ideas for the service but saw this as an opportunity to make mischief and to win votes by terrifying old people.

He would ask himself whether an application for self-governing status would really improve the service to the public. He hoped there would be non-political, serious local discussion.

It was disgraceful for a Labour document to assert that treatment would not be free in trust hospitals. Nobody who used the Labour guidance would not be telling the truth when he went around describing the proposal and getting Walsall council or some other band of idiots to get a negative answer.

The staff would remain national health service staff. The boards would not have any shares because there would be no private capital, no profit and the hospitals would not be commercial undertakings.

THE government timetable motion giving MPs eight hours to debate Lords changes to the National Health Service and Community Care Bill was carried by 305 votes to 200 — government majority, 105.

Kenneth Clarke, health secretary, moving the motion, said that the bill had taken an enormous amount of time, including a protracted all-night sitting. He had tried to arrange a timetable, but Labour had refused.

Robin Cook, shadow health secretary, said that he had declined to discuss a timetable because Mr Clarke had misrepresented Labour's attitude to the bill. The House of Lords was expected to reach a conclusion on the bill the next day and the press had been briefed to expect royal assent on Friday. "The Commons tonight is faced with 187 amendments to consider, but, no matter, the press have been told in 48 hours this bill will be law," he said. The House of Commons was the only place where Mr Clarke could find a would start.

Virginia Bottomley, health minister, said that the government was in a hurry so that the people could benefit from an improved and more rationally run health service.

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# Liberian marchers attacked

From...

GOVERNMENT... into the... yesterday... on March... thousands... the marchers... to end the... war.

The marchers... the Citizens' Committee... Democracy and... includes members... unions, trade bodies... organisations. Muslim... Christian leaders... Tuesday's march.

Reporters who... ter near the... Centre barracks... yesterday's shooting... heard numerous... to cease fire. But... demands were... bursts of gunfire and... from civilians trying to... There was no... word on casualties.

Some witnesses... saw several demonstrators... some apparently... chains during the... marchers at the... procession with... heard all over... including the... Point suburb where... American and... buses are located.

The rebels, led by... Taylor, formerly a... aid, have advanced... steadily towards... since the fighting started... December.

The president has... rebel demands that he... office immediately. But... agreed not to run... election next year.

The rebels are now... 15 miles of the capital. They... say they can take Monrovia... within 12 hours. After the failure... ago of peace talks in Freetown... the capital of neighbouring... Sierra Leone, the rebels have... refused to return to a second... round scheduled for Monday.

# Mengi courts with plea of democ

FOUR... walls of... Mengi... are... and... self. The... with an... Castro.

While... are being... cover of... trails... Mengi... the court... communit... multi-pa... market... Mengi... ally... and... Nothing... vantage... Ethiopia... ding him... colleagues... Haile Selassie.

As... grounds... office... Mengi... convey... the court... against... Tigrean... one of... leaders... Col... came in... March... was... that their... in which... backed... end... Mengi... turn to... the pro... introduction... This move... introduced... just one... transition... backward... gam of... trial and... modern... But it... introducing... are a... People's... Party... cannot... mandate... other... it... unity of... But there... other... into... into... into...

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## Mengistu courts West with pledge of democracy

FROM CARSON BLACK IN ADDIS ABABA

FOUR pictures adorn the walls of the office of President Mengistu of Ethiopia. Three are portraits: Marx, Engels and President Mengistu himself. The fourth shows him with an arm around Fidel Castro.

While the icons of communism around the capital are being torn down under cover of darkness, the portraits remain, despite President Mengistu's pledge to end the country's commitment to communism and introduce a multi-party system with a free market economy. President Mengistu is under siege, politically, militarily, personally and economically.

Nothing appears to be beyond this man, who has ruled Ethiopia ruthlessly since riding himself of the military colleagues who helped depose Haile Selassie in 1974.

As we chatted in the grounds of his home and office, Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu was at pains to convey that he is in control of the country and of the wars against the Eritreans and the Tigreans. But the calm exterior hides the concerns of one of the most vulnerable leaders in Africa.

Colonel Mengistu's seeming conversion to democracy came in a landmark speech in March which, it is believed, was prompted by President Gorbachev giving him notice that their cosy relationship — in which the Soviet Union bank-rolled Ethiopia — was to end this year. Colonel Mengistu knew he could only turn to the West, but realised the price would be the introduction of democracy.

Characteristically, he denies this motivation. He sees the introduction of democracy as just one more stage in the transition of Ethiopia from a backward country, an amalgam of fiefdoms, to an industrial and agricultural-based modern economy.

But is he serious about introducing democracy? "We are a party — the Ethiopian People's Democratic Unity Party — and, as such, we cannot decide (and) have no mandate on the making of other parties in our country if it isn't in the interests of the unity of the people," he said. "But there is no reason why other parties should not come into existence in this country. It is not our intention to retain

the monopoly of power, to be the only party. But it is the people through the national Shengo (parliament) who will decide. As far as we're concerned, we will be willing to work with other parties here."

He was asked if this meant that perhaps within two years one could see multi-party democracy — with candidates with opposing views to his — standing for election.

"Yes, it's quite possible, so long as the national Shengo decides. Yes, it's possible."

His party will discuss the matter at their 11th plenary session next month. Those who know him say he will do anything to keep power. His vision of a multi-party democracy does not conceive of his removal as president.

His main problem at the moment is the advance of the rebel forces in Eritrea and Tigré. The Eritrean conflict has been going on for 30 years and the Tigrean war for more than a decade. But although Colonel Mengistu controls less than half of Ethiopia his determination to fight on remains.

"It is not my wish to send one single individual to the north to fight. We don't want the war. We did not start it. We have inherited a very noble value from our forefathers and that is the national identity of the country."

And Colonel Mengistu's determination that Ethiopia remain united is total. "Whatever the extent of the sacrifice we have to pay to preserve unity, we're ready to pay."

Did that mean even if the price meant another 30 years of war?

"Even if it continues for another 100 years," he said.

War veterans do not share the president's thirst to fight on. Last year, 12 of his most senior army officers attempted a coup. Last month they were executed. It has been alleged he has killed as many as 12,000.

"This is absurd. In the first place, it is not in my nature to kill even an insect or a small living thing, let alone a human being. If anyone perished during the implanting of the revolution, it was certainly not on my orders."

Yet hundreds, perhaps thousands, languish in Ethiopian jails, detained without trial, and many have simply disappeared. Among those detained were the family of Selassie. His immediate relatives have been slowly released over the past two years. For the first time, they have spoken of their ordeal to a Western journalist.

I met 11 of the late emperor's family in a small ramshackle bungalow on the outskirts of Addis Ababa. The house is surrounded by a large wall and secret police officers.

Between the 11 members — Selassie's daughter, three grandsons, five grand-daughters, one great-grand-daughter and his daughter-in-law — they had spent more than 150 years in Colonel Mengistu's jails. Head of the family is Princess Tenagnework, aged 78. She is a frail figure, though still proud. "They came for us in the middle of the night. We were taken from our house and taken to another house. It was clear that this was the beginning of some kind of revolution. We all feared for our lives. All we want to do now is go abroad to see our relations and friends."

Carson Black is a television journalist who recently interviewed President Mengistu for the Eyewitness series.



Young Sri Lankan men waiting at an army base in Colombo to sign up for battle against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. Government security forces yesterday detained hundreds of Tamils in sweeps for guerrillas who have reportedly infiltrated the capital (AP reports from Colombo). The military also called on 2,500 Tamil Tigers, believed trapped in an eastern jungle, to

surrender. On Monday and Tuesday, air force planes attacked rebel positions around a strategic 200-year-old fort in the northern city of Jaffna, the rebel stronghold. A rebel statement claimed hundreds of buildings had been set on fire and that civilians were killed. The military said Sri Lanka would shortly receive six more Italian-made ground attack aircraft to bolster the air force's ability to bomb and strafe rebel targets. Four similar aircraft are already active. Sri Lanka now spends about 10 per cent of its budget of 65.9 billion rupees (£977 million) on defence. At least 1,626 combatants have died since the civil war recommenced on June 11. Fighting started after a Tamil man claimed he was manhandled by Sinhalese police. Tamil Tiger

## China breaks tradition of silence on leader's illness

FROM CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

IN AN unusual development yesterday, the Chinese media reported that one of China's most powerful men, second only to Deng Xiaoping, the paramount leader, had undergone surgery.

Normally, illness among the octogenarian leadership goes unreported, but the official news agency Xinhua said President Yang Shangkun, aged 83, had been in hospital since Monday and had undergone an operation for acute appendicitis. Media reports quoted Chinese leaders as saying that Mr Yang was in a good condition.

Since the Peking massacre on June 4 last year, the balance of political power has been extremely delicate and it is believed that any death at the top could leave the leadership in disarray. Mr Yang is seen as the man in charge of China's military, yielding only to Mr Deng, whose supreme power he is believed to covet.

Xinhua first revealed news of Mr Yang's illness in a report yesterday morning on the welcoming ceremony for President Habyré of Chad, which Mr Yang should have attended. Wang Zhen, the vice-president, was quoted as telling President Habyré that President Yang "has undergone an operation for acute appendicitis and is in a good condition". Li Peng, the prime minister, also meeting Presi-

## Burma villagers forced to leave

FROM MARY MAGISTAD IN PAGAN, BURMA

IN THE shadow of 1,000-year-old Buddhist temples, fearful villagers picked through the rubble of their ruined homes. Earlier this month, government soldiers forced most of Pagan's 5,000 inhabitants to tear down their houses and move to an arid and unprepared site about three miles away.

"They came with guns and told us to move quickly, or they would shoot us," one villager said. "No-one was hurt, but everyone was frightened. Everyone was crying."

Many of the villagers lost their homes and their livelihoods. Pagan's more than 2,000 temples and monuments are one of the wonders of Asia, and Burma's biggest tourist attraction. The village, inside Pagan's walls, had offered travellers guest houses, restaurants and shops. Now, only the government-owned hotels and a couple of restaurants are left.

Burma's military government, the State Law and Order Restoration Council, said the village had to go because the people were "squatters". It added that commoners traditionally had not been allowed to live within the walls of palace grounds. But several Pagan residents said their families had been living in Pagan for at least a century.

"My grandfather and his father and his father lived in that house," Mr Maung said. "Then the Ne Win government nationalised all the land, and said it did not belong to us any more."

Mr Maung said that not only was the government giving little or no compensation for Pagan's old houses, it was making them pay thousands of kyats (the local currency) for the new land. Mr Maung said he made only 800 kyats a month, but is expected to pay 13,000 for a plot in the "new town". When he said he could not pay, the government put a 10 per cent garnishment on his salary.

A plot of land in the new town is no bargain. The area is hot and dusty, with few trees. Villagers have to walk an hour or more for drinkable water.

## Troops enforce Lusaka curfew

FROM REUTERS IN LUSAKA

SPORADIC gunfire rang out in the Zambian capital of Lusaka early yesterday as thousands of troops and police patrolled the city to enforce a curfew after two days of food price riots.

No new casualty figures were available after the violence, the most serious threat to face President Kaunda since he took power some 26 years ago.

Lusaka hospital staff said late on Tuesday that at least 15 people had been killed and more than 150 were receiving medical treatment.

A BBC radio report said police were holding at least 300 people for questioning. Most people stayed home yesterday and the government said the curfew would be extended until today.

The state-controlled media carried no reports of the violence and there was no confirmation of rumours that rioting or looting had spread to the volatile copper mining zone, where 15 people were killed in food riots in 1986.

Students and residents of Lusaka's townships took to the streets on Monday to protest against the doubling in price of maize meal, Zambia's food staple. They barricaded most roads leading to Lusaka's townships, burned military vehicles and looted hundreds of shops. At least two police stations were attacked.

Diplomats and businessmen said students and town-folk had never united before in a spontaneous protest against the government.

President Nujoma of Namibia arrived unexpectedly yesterday for talks with Dr Kaunda, who cut short a holiday to return to Lusaka on Tuesday.

The Namibian president went to the State House by helicopter to avoid roads still barricaded in several parts of the capital.

Among the buildings destroyed in Tuesday's violence was Dr Kaunda's former home in Chingwe township, two miles from his present home and office. Police were reported to be patrolling towns in the Copperbelt.

The 1986 violence persuaded Dr Kaunda to abandon an International Monetary Fund austerity programme and reimpose heavy state controls on Zambia's depressed economy. Over the past year he has moved back towards traditional IMF-style policies.

## Liberian marchers attacked

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN MONROVIA

GOVERNMENT troops fired into the air and beat demonstrators with rifle butts yesterday to disperse the second march in two days by thousands of people in the Liberian capital, Monrovia. The marchers were demanding that President Doe resign to end the six-month civil war.

The march was organized by the Citizens' Committee for Democracy and Peace, which includes members of student unions, trade bodies and civic organisations. Muslim and Christian leaders headed Tuesday's march.

Reporters who sought shelter near the Barclay Training Centre barracks where yesterday's shooting started heard numerous commands to cease fire. But the commands were followed by bursts of gunfire and screams from civilians trying to flee.

There was no immediate word on casualties.

Some witnesses said they saw several demonstrators fall after troops began firing. Some apparently fell into open drains during the stampede. Soldiers were seen beating marchers at the front of the procession with rifle butts.

Sounds of shooting could be heard all over Monrovia, including the smart Mamba Point suburb where the American and other embassies are located.

The rebels, led by Charles Taylor, formerly a presidential aide, have advanced steadily towards Monrovia since the fighting started last December.

The president has refused rebel demands that he leave office immediately, but has agreed not to run for reelection next year.

The rebels are now within 15 miles of the capital. They say they can take Monrovia within 12 hours.

After the failure two weeks ago of peace talks in Freetown, the capital of neighbouring Sierra Leone, the rebels have refused to return to a second round scheduled for Monday.



Yang: The sprightly octogenarian president who is reported to be in hospital after an operation

REYKJAVIK NOTEBOOK by Alan Hamilton

## Icelanders fish for a special deal in EC markets

Cod wars are about to break out again — but this time there will be no gunboats. Earnest talking in the EFTA Brussels on including the EFTA countries, of which Iceland is one, in some form of enlarged free trade area incorporated with the European Community in 1992.

Icelanders view the prospect with mixed feelings and are already loud in their demands for special treatment. They want free access to community markets for the fish, which provides three-quarters of their income, but the Spanish are already insisting that the price must be EC access to Icelandic fishing grounds.

The issue came up this week between William Waldegrave, the Foreign Office minister accompanying the Queen on her state visit to Iceland, and the majestically named foreign minister, Jon Baldvin Hannibalsson.

Mr Waldegrave says the British are officially neutral on the issue at present, but that we have a great

deal of sympathy with the Icelanders, having experienced their stout defence of fishing grounds against our trawlers in the 1970s.

Fishing, however, is not the only concern troubling Icelanders, who may soon find themselves part of a greater European economic space.

To the dismay of Greenpeace, Iceland will be asking for a resumption of whaling at the International Whaling Commission meeting next month. Since the commission's moratorium on commercial whaling, Iceland has caught up to 120 whales a year under the permitted research kill. That programme has now ended, and Iceland wants a return to commercial exploitation of the minke whale.

They argue that at least 20,000 whales in Icelandic waters consume three million tonnes of food a year, which would be better employed fattening the cod and capelin. Whalemeat continues to appear on the menu at all the smartest restaurants here.

Joy of joys, Reykjavik has discovered pubs. The long Arctic night of alcoholic repression — when only hotel bars and some nightclubs served drink, and then only strong spirits at breathtaking prices — ended last year with the decision to take beer off the list of banned substances.

There is even a so-called "English-style" pub, the Glauumbar, but its décor of pop music memorabilia instantly distinguishes it from, say, the Dog and Ferret, in Purley.

The authorities report a rising trend in alcoholism, particularly among young people, in spite of a price deterrent of up to £3 for a bottle of beer.

Fearful of losing their burgeoning tourist trade, the Icelanders provide a welcome facility at Keflavik international airport — a duty-free shop where you can buy your cheap hooch on the way in.

Iceland's most famous liquor is the notorious Black Death, a schnapps distilled from potatoes. It has recently reappeared after a long

absence from the market, but I can disclose that it is not what it was. It is now produced in Luxembourg by an Icelandic entrepreneur living there.

Iceland's national power company grows ever more enthusiastic about its scheme to export electricity to Scotland via a 700-mile submarine cable. Feasibility studies indicate that Icelandic geothermal power would be far more environmentally friendly than derived from fossil fuels or nuclear power, and might even be cheaper in the long run.

The newly privatised British power industry is as yet unconvinced about the scheme, and suspects a degree of Icelandic self-interest beyond the obviously commercial aspect.

Downreay nuclear reactor on the Caithness coast is a constant source of worry to the Vikings, being little more than 200 miles as the caesium flows from their so-far unpolluted fishing waters, and they would really prefer that it was not

there at all. Julius Solnes, the Icelandic environment minister, has accepted an invitation to visit Downreay next month to investigate for himself.

Fears have been expressed that the country, which is not without its undertones of pride at the Icelandic race's relative purity of Viking and Celtic blood, might face an influx of foreign workers who would impose a burden on both the economy and the women.

They have been reassured by Kristinn Karlsson, a leading sociologist, who believes that the extortionate cost of living and the complexities of the Icelandic language (little changed from Old Norse) are a powerful discouragement to immigrants.

Magnus Magnusson, the country's most important export to Britain after frozen fish, tells me that Icelandic is the only known language with 27 different words for parts of a cod's head.

By MICHAEL KNIFE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

THE increasing influence of Islamic fundamentalism in Sudan is causing growing concern as the regime of Omar Hassan al-Bashir prepares to celebrate the first anniversary of the coup which toppled the democratically elected government of Sadiq al-Mahdi.

General Bashir's regime is regarded as a vehicle of Sudan's leading Islamic movement, the National Islamic Front, and its adoption of fundamentalist Islamic policies is causing it to be seen as the first Khmeini-style Islamic fundamentalist regime in Africa.

There are direct links between the front and the fundamentalist regime in Iran, say experienced Sudan watchers. Its leaders make regular visits to Tehran and Iranians are training its Islamic militias.

The regime's primary objective is believed to be to strengthen the existing sharia, the Islamic law, to its full rigour. This has provoked widespread concern among its opponents and human rights organisations.

Izzedin Ali Amir, an exiled Sudanese member of parliament and leader of the opposition National Democratic Front, said that although the regime denies its plans to turn Sudan formally into an Islamic state, it is gradually creating a fundamentalist regime in all but name by ousting officials in key positions and replacing them with fundamentalists. More than 8,000 civil servants had been removed in this way, he said. Four banks had also been taken over and "Islamicised".

The regime has denied persistent rumours that it will use the anniversary of the coup on Saturday to formally declare Sudan as an Islamic state. What it will do, according to Yacoub Mussa, the minister of irrigation, is to sign a charter aimed at creating unity between Sudan and its northeastern neighbour, Libya. This is expected to be less than a full-scale merger, but it indicates the radical political sympathies of the Khartoum regime.

Since it seized power the revolutionary command council has made clear its fundamentalist tendencies and won notoriety over its gross abuse of human rights. It has jailed hundreds of political opponents, banned unions and political parties, silenced the press and tried to dismantle the judiciary.

At least 60 prisoners have been tortured in secret interrogation centres in Khartoum by members of an undercover agency known as "the security of the revolution" in the past six months, according to a report by Amnesty International published today.

There is also international concern over the intimidation of voluntary aid workers in Sudan in spite of the fact that the country relies heavily on about 60 foreign aid agencies and is the largest debtor nation to the International Monetary Fund.



# Gorbachev woos army to protect his reforms

From MARY DELEVSKY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Gorbachev has made a determined effort to regain the initiative with the Soviet armed forces after a series of challenges to his authority in defence and foreign policy.

Speaking to graduates of Moscow military academies at a ceremonial Kremlin meeting on Tuesday, but reported only yesterday, Mr Gorbachev defended his policy of reform and called on the new officers to support it. "To use a military expression, there is nowhere to retreat," he said. "Going back will not provide any solution to the questions of principle which have been posed by life itself."

Mr Gorbachev's remarks constituted a direct riposte to charges levelled against his leadership by two speakers at last week's Russian party conference. General Albert Makashov had complained about a dangerous weakening of the Soviet defences as a result of perestroika, and Yegor Ligachev, leader of the central committee conservatives, had complained that the socialist community in Eastern Europe had collapsed, leaving imperialism strengthened.

President Gorbachev's address to new military graduates in the Kremlin may not have been directed only against his critics on the conservative wing of the party, however. It would also have conveyed a message to Boris Yeltsin who, as newly elected president of the Russian Federation, had earlier reviewed the passing out parade of the same military graduates.

Mr Yeltsin's attendance at that parade, alongside the



A shopper and child passing empty shelves in an East Berlin store, after panic buyers depleted stocks ahead of monetary union on Sunday

## Brussels looks at options for Soviet aid package

From MICHAEL BINYON IN BRUSSELS

THE European Commission has begun drawing up options for huge European Community aid to the Soviet Union, after the Dublin summit's decision to offer a substantial loan and aid package to shore up support for President Gorbachev.

Officials of the commission have been working on contingency plans for the past two months, and have already held a preliminary meeting. They will be contacting experts from multi-lateral organisations such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to analyse the severity of the economic crisis in the Soviet Union.

Jacques Delors, president of the commission, will fly to Moscow with Frans Andriessen, the external affairs commissioner, for two days of talks on July 18 to discuss Moscow's need for short-term credit and long-term structural reform.

Their talks will come after the Nato summit in London next week and the Houston summit of the Group of Seven industrialised nations next month, at which the Europeans will try to co-ordinate their proposals with the United States and Japan. The commission's analysis will be presented to EC leaders for a decision at an emergency sum-

mit the Italians will call in Rome on October 27.

EC leaders in Dublin underlined the critical state of the Soviet economy and the dangers this posed to Mr Gorbachev. Charles Haughey, the Irish prime minister, said perestroika was in everyone's interest, and the EC had sent Mr Gorbachev a "very, very clear signal" of support.

But sharp disagreement between Britain on the one hand and France and West Germany on the other marked the Dublin discussions, which Mr Haughey described as "substantial and robust". President Mitterrand and Helmut Kohl, the West German chancellor, said economic aid should be immediate. Britain, Italy and several other countries warned the community not to pour money into a bottomless pit. They wanted rigorous controls to ensure it was not diverted to Cuba, Vietnam or towards military spending.

Despite Margaret Thatcher's assertion that she had led the way in offering support to Mr Gorbachev, Britain is insisting on linkage between aid and thorough-going economic reform.

There was confusion in Dublin over the aid initiative and whether the suggested figure of \$15 billion (£8.7

billion) will be taken by the commission as a guideline. German officials insisted Mr Gorbachev had not requested help. Both Mr Haughey and M Delors said they, too, had received no formal requests.

There have also been some sharp words over whether German enthusiasm for a loan is an attempt to get the community to offer Moscow a sweetener for unification. Smaller countries such as Portugal are already suggesting privately that they would be unwilling to pay out large sums to the Soviet Union.

German officials vigorously deny that Bonn's call for an aid package is linked to unification. But this has been undermined by a letter Herr Kohl sent to all EC leaders before the summit. He wrote: "President Gorbachev has requested a short-term credit initiative on the part of private German banks, in which the federal government would act as a guarantor. We are currently examining this request favourably. In this connection I would urge the Soviet Union, for its part, to adopt a constructive approach to questions arising on the path toward German unity."

Herr Kohl insisted in Dublin that he was referring only to a linkage with German loans, not to community aid.

## Vilnius leaders in Moscow talks

From ANATOL LIEVEN IN VILNIUS

LITHUANIA'S president and prime minister left yesterday afternoon for Moscow to have joint talks with President Gorbachev.

Lithuanian deputies admit they are meeting him together so that they should not subsequently be able to give different accounts of what he said. The delegation includes Romualdas Ozalas, the deputy prime minister, and others - "to provide some witnesses", as a government spokesman said half-jokingly.

Reporting to parliament on Tuesday about what Mr Gorbachev had told them in separate talks, the two leaders gave significantly different accounts of the Soviet president's interpretation of a "moratorium" on Lithuania's declaration of independence. The Kremlin has made a moratorium its last pre-condition for the beginning of talks on Lithuanian independence.

Mr Vytautas Landsbergis, Lithuanian president, said that Mr Gorbachev was still insisting a moratorium will involve a return of Lithuania to the Soviet constitution as a member state of the Soviet Union. This was unacceptable to most deputies from the Sajudis movement.

Mr Kazimieras Prunskiene, the prime minister, said that

in a telephone call to her after his meeting with Mr Landsbergis, Mr Gorbachev spoke of negotiations taking place on an "inter-state" basis, implying equality between the two sides. Radical Sajudis deputies suspect Mrs Prunskiene of putting her own gloss on the Soviet leader's words to further her chances of getting a moratorium accepted by parliament.

Yesterday Mrs Prunskiene took with her to Moscow a new version of the moratorium proposal including, in a milder form, some of the new conditions proposed by Sajudis deputies.

These include a three-month time limit on the moratorium, and a statement that it will be broken off if "the Lithuanian parliament will not be able to perform its functions" - a condition which may not be acceptable to Moscow, as it implies that the parliament will be able to go on changing the legal situation even as negotiations proceed.

This draft also contains a reference to "paying attention to meetings with the leaders of democratic states". Mrs Prunskiene's own strong support for a compromise with Moscow dates from her meetings with Western leaders, including Mrs Thatcher, when she was urged that the Lithuanian government should stop hurrying abuse at Moscow and try to begin negotiations. She told a press conference this week that the West was treating Lithuania like "a spoiled child in a tantrum".

The Soviet government is offering Lithuania two options if talks begin: of remaining in a new Soviet federation on terms negotiated by the Lithuanians themselves, or becoming fully independent. Nikolai Ryzhkov, the Soviet prime minister, emphasized that, in the latter case, Lithuania would lose its access to the Soviet market and raw materials at subsidised prices, and Moscow would also raise the question of taking back territory.

Mrs Prunskiene and many deputies from the Lithuanian Communist party favour Lithuania keeping open the possibility of remaining in a future and much looser Soviet Union.

Sajudis radicals view this possibility with horror, and hope to close it off before talks begin with Moscow. Mr Landsbergis is moving slowly in the direction of a compromise, but he has not so far been willing to urge this on his more radical followers. To avoid compromising his long-term position as leader, he seems to want to avoid being seen as even partly responsible for a climb-down from statements that the declaration of independence was "unbreakable".

## German unity breeds unease in West

From IAN MURRAY IN COLOGNE

THE shelves in Kaiser's supermarket in the city centre were sagging as usual under the weight of pastas, soups, vegetables and wines from all over Europe.

The customers were resignedly gloomy as they loaded their trolleys and talked about German unity. They had seen this week's pictures of the empty shelves in East German shops and they were in no doubt that West Germany was going to be called on to fill them.

"If I think about it, I'm scared. So I just don't think about it," said Sabine Völkner, a legal secretary. "Nobody really knows what unity will mean to us. Even the experts disagree, but I bet we find out the hard way and that it will cost us a lot."

Her trolley was filled with expensive diet foods and her suitcase looked a permanent fixture. "I'm going to take a good holiday away from it all this year in the Canaries. Who knows when I will be able to afford another?"

Wolfgang Boenick, a carpenter married with two children, had abandoned the idea of a holiday. "We've always been away before, but this year I've persuaded my wife we had better save up. Life is going to become a lot more expensive after Sunday."

That is the day when the German mark displaces Karl Marx on the East German currency. Although the shoppers in Kaiser's were proud this was happening none of them seemed convinced by government claims that taxes will be held at the same level, and that in five or six years, the East German economy will be on a par with theirs.

Jürgen Maunther, an out of work motor mechanic from Magdeburg in East Germany, moved west the week after the East German elections last March. He was buying potatoes and tins of soup. "I left because I thought we would never catch up until I was too old to work. I voted for the socialists and I felt that Helmut Kohl (the West German chancellor) was lying when he promised us a one for one exchange rate for our marks. Now I almost wish I had stayed, but it is probably better to be out of work here than back home."

That made Anna Bernicz angry. Her father had fled from what is now Poland at the end of the war and, she said, had worked to make Germany the country it is today. "He was not idle like you people. He did not expect hand-outs for nothing."

The "hand-outs" are to stop on Sunday, when monetary union arrives. At the moment the 4,000 East Germans a month migrating west can qualify for DM 200 in "welcome money" as well as income support in the first year of DM 2,400 for each family member. These perks were introduced at a time when those East Germans who escaped were admitted and so few in number that they were cheap to help and encourage. Now that over half a million have arrived in less than a year, attitudes have changed.

Not all West Germans are pessimistic. "They have all been listening to Oskar too much," said Wilfried Müller, a banker who was buying a snack to eat in the office where he said he was working flat out counting other people's money. Oskar Lafontaine is the leader of the opposition Social Democrats who has been acting as the prophet of doom over monetary union, warning that it will bring inflation, unemployment and general misery. At the moment, he is convalescing in Spain after being nearly knifed to death by a deranged woman two months ago.

"Things may slow up for a year or two, but then we will be better off than ever," Herr Müller insisted. His view seems to be prevalent for the first time, Herr Kohl has moved ahead of Herr Lafontaine in the opinion polls.

## Rabta plant builder gets five years

Bonn - Jürgen Hippensteil-Imhausen, the West German businessman who masterminded the construction of a factory in the Libyan desert capable of mass producing chemical weapons, was jailed in Mannheim for five years yesterday for tax evasion and breach of trade regulations (Ian Murray writes).

He admitted concealing contract details for the Rabta plant to avoid tax of DM 16 million (£5 million). Judge Jürgen Henniger said the accused camouflaged the operation - from which he expected to make a DM 20 million profit - by pretending he was building a medical drug plant in Hong Kong.

## Warship visit

Gdynia - Two American warships, the cruiser Harry E. Yarnel, and the frigate Kauffman, are in this Baltic port on the first US Navy visit to Poland since before the second world war. (Reuter)

## Thai hanged

Kuala Lumpur - Krisana Boontas, aged 36, a Thai national, has been hanged here for possession of a revolver in 1984. His brother later drove the embalmers back home. (Reuter)

## Pilots' flight

Kampala - Ugandan pilots Ebrahim Kisoro and Voni Indria abandoned 30 passengers and six crew during a stopover on a domestic flight, and disappeared. Police are searching for them. (Reuter)

## Extradition delay

Dona, France - An appeal court here postponed until September 25 examination of Spain's request for the extradition of Isidro Galarde Bedi-alauneta, thought to be an ETA member. (AFP)

## Street clean-up

Jakarta - Beggers and children who sing for money are the latest targets in a drive to clean the streets, which is sweeping away rickshaw drivers and itinerant peddlers. (Reuter)

## Fence victims

Johannesburg - The South African Council of Churches claims that a 39-mile electric fence on South Africa's border with Mozambique has killed 94 people since it was built in 1986. (Reuter)

## Poachers jailed

Dar es Salaam - Tanzania has jailed more than 2,800 wildlife poachers in the past two years for between two months and 30 years. (Reuter)

## Nuclear blast

Caulberta - Gareth Evans, the Australian foreign affairs minister, has criticised France for its latest nuclear tests in the Pacific. (AFP)

## Singer lifts curtain on drama at Bolshoi

From NICHOLAS BEESTON IN MOSCOW

THE Bolshoi theatre, for long Russia's most cherished symbol of artistic prowess, is being threatened by a fierce dispute that led to a hunger strike by some performers calling for the dismissal of the artistic director.

While Western audiences still marvel at the prowess of the Bolshoi's dancers and singers, a number of performing artists have called for drastic changes backstage to save the company from disaster.

Yuri Grigorovich, a rotund baritone with an infectious laugh and 22 years at the opera company, is the theatre's fiercest critic. He was highly critical of the group's management and what he termed artistic bankruptcy.

Mr Grigorovich, along with some members of the audience, was scathing about the merits of a celebrity ballet performance staged this week by a newly-created "Club for Mikhail Gorbachev's Supporters". But what infuriated him most was that Moscow's *nomenklatura* appeared to use the Bolshoi almost as a private playground, where jobs are sought for relatives of senior party officials.

Mr Grigorovich also regarded



Fan club: two Muscovites at the Bolshoi event organised by Gorbachev supporters

as an insult the appointment of two deputy directors, apparently because of their Communist party standing. "One of them was a third-rate dancer and the other waved a palm in the opera *Aida*," Mr Grigorovich said. "When I look at the Bolshoi now I see our

shelves are as bare of talent as our shops are bare of goods."

Performers have also complained about a deal signed with a London-based consortium, Entertainment Corporation, which won an exclusive contract giving it 40 per cent of all profits from world-

wide revenues of non-performing rights of the Bolshoi. Mr Grigorovich claimed that performers have not benefited from the contract.

Along with six other singers and dancers, Mr Grigorovich went on a one-day hunger strike earlier this month and

presented the management with a list of complaints, most of them directed at Yuri Grigorovich, the theatre's long-standing director. He is credited with building up the theatre's prestige over the past 26 years as artistic director and choreographer, but in recent years critics have complained about a lack of creativity and shrinking repertoire.

Mr Grigorovich has avoided entering the public row, but did tell one Moscow magazine that "even the Garden of Eden has its problems", and said that the dissenters were a tiny minority in a company which employs more than 2,000 people.

His future and that of the theatre may well rest on its ability to hold on to its star performers. But the omens are not good. This month Irek Mukhamedov, a star dancer and one of the director's strongest supporters, announced that he intended to become the lead dancer at the Royal Ballet in London.

"Dozens of other performers have resigned in the past few years and Mr Grigorovich plans to leave after refusing to sign a new one-year contract which he says gives the management unfair control over the performers."

## Betrayal adds touch of bitterness to Provençal sweet melon saga

From PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

THE saga of a shipment of luscious Provençal melons that were actually grown in Spain is setting neighbour against neighbour in a tiny French village of the Midi. Straight from the pages of one of Marcel Pagnol's fables of the region, it involves greed, envy, anonymous denunciations and the revival of ancient, but never-forgotten, feuds among the canny smallholders of Velleron.

As the world well knows, there is nothing to beat the fresh fruit and vegetables of Provence: the fattest strawberries, the sweetest grapes - both trodden and untrodden - the finest asparagus, the daintiest cour-

gettes and, of course, melons of incomparable sweetness and flavour. The only problem for the growers of Velleron, deep in the lovely Vaucluse, is that peak demand for their produce from around Western Europe can often precede the ideal moment to harvest their own crops.

Although normally known for their deep-seated hatred of all "inferior" foreign produce, the ingenious solution in this case has been to "naturalise" properly ripened shipments brought in from Spain before packing them off under the Midi stamp of quality. By some accounts, this alternative version of the integrated European Market has been operating

smoothly and, no doubt, profitably for the last four or five years.

That is certainly what Claude Brin, half a century in the melon business, had in mind for his lorry load from Spain before a squad of gendarmes drove up to arrest him and led him off to court in handcuffs. According to M Brin, who sounds as if he could have played a bit part in the acclaimed film of *Manon des Sources*, the downfall was the result of a tip-off to the police from trade rivals harbouring an ancient grudge.

He was deeply aggrieved at being plunked down on the accused's bench alongside common criminals, "me, with 50 years devoted to the defence of our melons". As

M Brin told it to the newspaper *Liberation*, everyone in the trade in his corner of Provence knew all about the Spanish connection: "It was the only way to retain the confidence of clients who had been dealing with us for 15 years." The usual procedure was for shipments to come over the border to Saint-Marcel market in Perpignan for collection and subsequent *blanchissage* - laundering - with the renowned mark of the Midi.

The disconsolate M Brin was eventually fined 100,000 francs (not much short of £10,000) for *tromperie sur la marchandise* and other related offences. But he had no intention of carrying the can alone: without further ado, he

produced a comprehensive list of fellow fraudsters in and around Velleron for the startled presiding judge.

In no time, gendarmes were descending on other farmers with arrest warrants for other stalwarts of the melon trade in their hand. Unsurprisingly, in a small and close-knit rural community like this - where, as in Pagnol's day, everybody's business is somebody else's - M Brin is not now the most popular fellow around.

Already, he says, people he has known for many years are turning their back on him in the village, ignoring his greetings. The ground is perhaps being laid for another of those lovingly nurtured squabbles

to carry on alongside age-old disputes over water rights, access to grazing and family feuds over real or imagined personal slights which all colour the secretive community life with equal intensity.

In such charged circumstances, the situation seems ripe for further mischief from what the French call *corbeaux*, or crows, the composers of poison-pen letters. In little Velleron, as in the heart of Paris, the ignoble act of *délation*, succinctly defined by Larousse as "denunciation, usually self-interested and despicable", can flourish in what sometimes strikes outsiders as a peculiarly French climate of jealousy, suspicion and a certain meanness of spirit.

Bush a tax op right-w

Pocket m for fallen

Gunmen armoured



## Bush about-turn on tax opens way for right-wing rebellion

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON woke to a new world yesterday. By reneging on his "no new taxes" pledge President Bush had ended the Reagan revolution, killed the last of the big issues which had ensured a decade of Republican dominance, and given huge encouragement to Democrats.

The political fall-out that rained upon the White House was heavy and predictable and came almost entirely from Republicans. Democrats rejoiced. Independent commentators and economists welcomed a long-overdue manifestation of fiscal responsibility. Many Republican candidates in this November's congressional elections despair; conservatives rage.

Ninety of the 176 House Republicans, all up for reelection, signed a letter to Mr Bush declaring tax increases "unacceptable" and vowing to vote against them. Nearly two dozen senators signed a similar letter, unassured by John Sununu, the con-

servative White House chief of staff, who was hastily dispatched to Capitol Hill to play down the significance of what had happened.

Claudine Schneider, a member of Congress, called the president's announcement "terrible". Congresswoman Lynn Martin said increasing taxes was "an idea whose time has not come". Congressman Bill Scheu was "deeply disappointed... absolutely opposed". All three are challenging Democratic senators in the autumn.

The end of the Cold War had destroyed one of the Republican party's two greatest electoral assets — its staunch anti-communism and commitment to strong defence. Now the other has gone. Republicans can no longer ridicule Democrats as the "tax-and-spend" party. What is left are middle-ground issues like the environment, education and drugs, in which both parties are struggling for advantage.

For the old Reagan conservatives Mr Bush's announcement represented the ultimate sell-out by a president they had never really trusted. "Read my lips: Bush blew it," remarked Richard Viguerie, chairman of United Conservatives of America. "This essentially guarantees a conservative challenge to Bush in 1992."

In a damning *New York Times* article this month, Mr Viguerie listed all the issues on which Mr Bush had betrayed the right. He had met homosexuals at the White House, unleashed a new wave of business regulation, failed to oppose public funding of obscene art, relaxed high-tech export controls to the Warsaw Pact, sent top aides to toast the "butchers of Peking", made concessions to Moscow on trade and arms control while it was suppressing Lithuania, ridiculed the Heritage Foundation and left Oliver North "swinging in the wind".

In reality Mr Bush has taken the painful political decision now to ensure his greater strength in the 1992 presidential campaign. Senior advisers had warned him that his prospects depended far more heavily on America's economic performance than on adherence to an old campaign pledge.

Next year's projected budget deficit is nearly \$230 billion (\$132 billion), including the cost of bailing out the savings-and-loan industry, and still rising. The legal limit is \$64 billion. With disaster imminent, Mr Bush has seized his last chance to save the economy and to avoid massive public spending cuts.

Governor Michael Dukakis of Massachusetts, the Democrat Mr Bush defeated with his "no new taxes" pledge, observed: "I told the truth, and I paid the price. Mr Bush did not... and now we must all pay the price."

The White House managed to silence prominent Republican right-wingers, and sought to diminish the announcement's impact by making it on the day of Nelson Mandela's address to Congress. It also extracted a promise from leading congressional Democrats not to seek political advantage from the climb-down. Other Democrats had no such inhibitions.

Mr Bush had "finally backed into a well-deserved corner," said Congressman Beryl Anthony, chairman of the Democratic congressional campaign committee.

Administration and congressional budget negotiators were to resume talks yesterday with the stalemate broken but some important questions yet to be resolved. How great should the tax increases be? Who should they hurt? The administration will fight to minimise tax increases and to spread the burden.

Higher petrol tax, increased duties on alcohol and cigarettes and an oil import tax were being widely forecast yesterday. Democrats called for the elimination of the so-called "bubble" under which the well-off pay 33 per cent income tax and the super-rich only 28 per cent. Mr Bush wants a capital gains tax cut which would initially generate revenue by encouraging the sale of investments. No one has yet been bold enough to call for a general increase in personal income tax.

## Pocket money for fallen mogul

FROM CHARLES BRENNER IN NEW YORK

DONALD Trump has won some breathing space from his bankers, but at the cost of a stinging indignity for a man who once boasted that spending was his art form. They put him on an allowance.

The bankers agreed to lend Mr Trump \$20 million to tide him over the next 30 days. Without it he would have been unable to meet payments on bonds and his whole property and casino business could have crashed.

But to stay in the bankers' good books, Mr Trump must agree to cut his "personal and household expenses" to a meagre \$450,000 (£260,000) a month. He will be given a further \$200,000 a year as salary, but he must make do without his Boeing 727.

For the man who preached the creed of free spending and flaunting, this amounted to the end of the road. The news triggered a torrent of mirth in New York. Reporters went to the Trump Tower, his gleaming Fifth Avenue skyscraper, seeking tips on making ends meet; beggars advised television crews on how to rough it in Manhattan and *The New York Times* elicited a few snickers from billionaires who requested anonymity. "I would have no idea how to spend \$450,000 a month," one said.

A lawyer involved in the deal noted: "He's like an errand child who has been spending his assets profligately and now has to be put on a leash."

The bankers reported that in May, Mr Trump's personal spending amounted to \$583,000 for "necessities", ranging from suits (ten at a time at \$2,000 each) to paying the maids, gardeners and chefs at his homes. The expenses do not include the cost of maintaining the Trump Princess, his 250 ft yacht, which was previously owned by Adnan Khashoggi.

Mr Trump will have to alter his eating habits: he dines three nights a week at the

city's most expensive restaurants. Last week he spent \$4,000 on a photograph frame and \$7,800 for sheets, according to one press account.

The bankers want receipts for every cent of the allowance, one of several curbs intended to discipline the man who boasted in his 1987 best-seller, "Bankers now come to me to ask if I might be interested in borrowing their money. They know a safe bet." However some experts said the ex-golden boy still appeared to be working his charm.

Allan Sloan, a financial commentator, said: "Agreeing to let a deadbeat like Trump have that kind of walking-around cash is the kind of thing a banker could agree to do only if he were 1, out of his mind; or 2, assured that no one would ever find out."

A Philadelphia newspaper revealed the size of the allowance.

But the cycle of a story in New York is a short one. With Mr Trump now firmly lodged in the role of loser, with the shops selling off the Trump board game for peanuts and foreign tourists giggling at the indoor waterfalls of Trump Tower, there are signs that Schadenfreude may be giving way to sympathy.

"Hey, why don't you all leave this guy alone?" snorted Cindy Adams, one of the city's gossip columnists. "Outside the fact that he's six feet two with a seven foot ego... what did he ever do to any of you personally?"

And the *New York Post*, the tabloid which has had most fun with the melodrama of the falling mogul, came out with a solemn editorial saying: "We see no reason to jump for joy at Donald Trump's financial difficulties... Thousands of ordinary working people will suffer if Trump goes under." Among these, presumably, is Peter Kalikow, one of Mr Trump's rivals in the property business who also happens to own the *New York Post*.

## Gunmen steal \$10m in armoured car hold-up

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN NEW YORK

ARMED robbers have stolen more than \$10 million (£5.7 million) in one of the largest armoured car robberies in American history.

The robbery happened on Tuesday morning when the armoured car driver and his woman colleague stopped for breakfast. The driver was confronted by a gunman while the woman was inside a delicatessen, the two employees told police.

They said the gunman got

into the armoured car. When the woman returned, the gunman ordered the two to drive out into the countryside, about half mile away, where the money was transferred to another vehicle.

The driver and his colleague were tied up, but were not hurt, authorities said. They said a second gunman participated in the robbery, but no information about his involvement was known.

The robbers escaped with

\$10.8 million, police said. The money was being taken to the Federal Reserve Bank in Buffalo, New York, which serves as a source of coin and currency for banks in the western portion of the state.

Andrew Meloni, the local sheriff, said: "It certainly was planned, no question about that, and was obviously rather successful."

The theft could be the second largest of its kind in American history. The Federal Bureau of Investigation's public affairs office in Washington DC said its records indicated that the largest such theft was \$11 million taken in 1982 from a Sentry Armoured Car Courier Co. office in New York city. In 1983 \$7 million was stolen from a Wells Fargo armoured car office in Hartford, Connecticut.

Tom Ryan, a spokesman for the sheriff's department, said the armoured car was owned by Armoured Motor Service of America Inc. of New York.

Parents killed: Thomas Camerlengo, aged 27, was charged yesterday with decapitating his adoptive parents with a saw. Their bodies were discovered on Tuesday night in the basement of their home. Police gave no motive for the killings.



The armoured car from which \$10 million was stolen in the second biggest robbery of its kind in America



Nelson Mandela, the ANC's deputy leader, conferring with Jesse Jackson, the former American presidential candidate, before making his address to Congress. Mr Mandela called for continued sanctions against Pretoria

## Clamour for right to die grows in US

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE rush is on. Americans are clamouring to draw up "living wills" stating what they want to happen to them should they sink into a permanent coma, suffer irreversible brain damage or be otherwise reduced to a vegetable.

The demand has been triggered by Monday's Supreme Court ruling that states can demand "clear and convincing evidence" of a comatose patient's wishes before life-sustaining medical treatment can be withdrawn.

In its first ever "right-to-die" case, the court refused to allow the parents of a Missouri

woman, aged 32, to withdraw the feeding tubes that have kept her alive in what is called a "persistent vegetative state" since she was in a car crash seven years ago. It dismissed her vaguely-expressed wish to friends and family before the accident that she would not want to live as a vegetable.

The ruling has generated "phenomenal interest", said Doran Weber, spokesman for the New York-based Society for the Right to Die, which provides standard "living will" forms tailored to the legal requirements of individual states. "We've had thou-

sands of calls from people wanting them. It's been intense."

The *New York Times* reproduced one of the forms on its pages yesterday, observing that "living wills give people a way, until the very end, to take charge of their lives". A *Washington Post* article reported a consensus among lawyers and right-to-die advocates that the court's decision "makes it crucial for all adults to write down exactly what they want to do if they become permanently unconscious".

USA Today published an

article by Patrick Hill, a director of the Concern for Dying organisation, explaining exactly what the wills were, how to draw them up with your lawyer, doctor, and religious adviser, and how you can give power of attorney to a friend or relative.

Polls show 80 per cent of Americans would want to be allowed to die if they were comatose without hope of recovery, but only nine to 15 per cent have made "living wills". Forty-one states and Washington DC, have enacted legislation recognising the validity of these wills.

## Quebec prepares cool royal welcome

FROM SUSAN ELLICOTT IN MONTREAL

THE Queen headed towards a squall of anti-monarchist feeling in Canada yesterday as separatists from a town in the French-speaking province of Quebec called on her to cancel her visit this week.

The request, which stands little chance of altering the Queen's plans, comes amid a storm of nationalist sentiment in the province after two English-speaking regions failed last week to ratify the Meech Lake accord that would have recognised Quebec as a "distinct society" within Canada.

Jean-Paul Servant, the president of a local branch of the separatist Parti Quebecois in Hull, a French-speaking town near the border with English-speaking Ontario, issued a statement asking the Queen to stay away from their town at this sensitive time. The Queen, who is Canada's head of state, is scheduled to stop over in Hull briefly on Saturday en route to Ottawa, on the other side of the Outaouais River, to attend Canada Day celebrations.

"We are advising her to stay on the other side of the 'bridge'," Mr Servant, an adult education teacher, said. "It would be better for her since there will be certainly some kind of demonstration."

Mr Servant issued his statement after receiving about 20 telephone calls from French speakers who told him the Queen's visit was inappropriate barely one week after the failure of the accord. This was followed by an emotional celebration by Quebecois on the streets of Montreal of their province's biggest annual "national" holiday — Saint-Jean Baptiste Day.

200 youngsters are about to raise the roof at the National. (Along with a few eyebrows.)

Twelve eye-opening plays are about to be staged at the Royal National Theatre.

They're from this year's Lloyds Bank Theatre Challenge. And they're not for the faint-hearted.

What with violence, drugs, Northern Ireland and rent boys among their themes, they certainly present the audience with a theatrical challenge.

But the unifying message of them all is that young people care about the ills of society.

And are prepared to stand up and shout about them in their own powerful, highly original way.

The plays will be performed by young people aged between eleven and eighteen on the Olivier Stage on the 10, 11 and 12 of July.

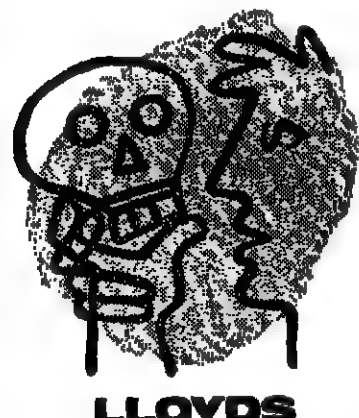
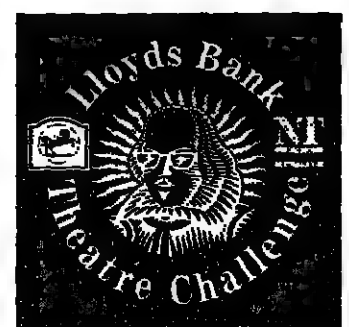
Choosing them was no mean feat.

National Theatre Assessors saw over 200 entries from all over the country before selecting the final twelve.

So successful is the event, it has already sold out.

Should you fancy taking part in the Challenge next year, entry forms are now available from any branch of Lloyds Bank.

"This is how youth theatre should be." The Financial Times, no less.



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## DEMOCRATIC LABOUR PAINS

One of the more ridiculous sights at a Labour party conference is the show of hands on a vote. A sprinkling of trade union delegates supports a motion; a forest of upturned arms from the constituency section opposes it. "Carried," cries the chair, against the evidence of the eye. The block vote wins again.

After yesterday's decision of the party's national executive committee, that imbalance should gradually be righted. The NEC voted by a large majority to support a paper that proposes reducing the unions' vote at conference from 90 per cent to 70 per cent after the next general election; and, over the longer term, to consider a cut to 40 per cent. That the unions should hand over power to party members is a good thing, provided it is done in a truly democratic way.

The perception that the Labour party is dominated by the trade unions has always been an electoral liability. Yet within the party, the block vote has proved an asset to the leadership. Labour activists on their own would not have voted to abandon unilateralism; indeed most of Neil Kinnock's modernisation of policy could never have happened without union support. If the unions are to relinquish some of their power, Labour must ensure that those to whom it passes are representative, moderate members of the party, not merely hardline activists.

The party's membership must be built up. Yesterday's decision to increase the fee by 50 per cent will be counterproductive. A mass membership drive launched after the last election has failed to bring in more than a trickle of new supporters. The total stands at just under 300,000, less than it was 10 years ago. A few prospective members are deterred by the prospect of intimidation; more, probably, by sheer boredom. Until one-member one-vote is made mandatory, activists can still hijack a constituency, particularly through affiliated union branches.

Yet Mr Kinnock must be encouraged by watching those constituencies that have

balloted all their members on decisions, rather than relying on the votes of activists. In the last leadership election, these constituencies voted almost unanimously for the moderate Kinnock-Hattersley ticket. Similarly, Bryan Gould was voted on to the NEC, and Ken Livingstone off, thanks mainly to one-member one-vote constituency support. The move towards one-member one-vote, not just for NEC and leadership elections, but also for reselecting MPs, must take place before power is handed to the members. Activists are no more representative of Labour party voters than union leaders are of their flocks.

Had Frank Field been subject to a one-member one-vote ballot, he would not have been deselected by his Birkenhead constituency. Yesterday's decision to have a re-run of the vote may yet save him by default. The re-run is contingent on a number of other events happening first, notably the expulsion of Militant supporters. Mr Field must hope that the next general election will be upon him before the process has finished. As the sitting MP, he would almost certainly stand. After that, one-member one-vote will be mandatory and his position more secure.

The setting up of a national policy forum was the woolliest decision taken yesterday. The forum, to which seven policy commissions will report, is designed to create policy in less of what Bevan called an "emotional spasm". The formalisation of policy-making should prove better than the present, ad hoc arrangements. But how is the forum to be elected? And what body is to have the final say? The NEC? The party conference? Mr Kinnock?

Mr Kinnock's main task in reforming his party's links with the trade unions must be to remove their ability to blackmail a government. A party in power should take note of grassroots feeling, but not allow itself to be dominated. A Labour government must be answerable to parliament, not to the backrooms of union headquarters or constituency parties.

## GLOBAL PRECEDENT

By the sluggish standards of international diplomacy, the world has responded with extraordinary speed to counter the life-threatening damage to the ozone layer. In 1987, only two years after news of the damage was published, the first governments committed themselves under a formal convention, the Montreal Protocol, to halve their production and use of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and halons, the main culprit chemicals, by 1998. Nearly 60 have now signed this convention. In 1989, 80 nations concluded that this target was inadequate, and agreed on total elimination by the year 2000.

Ministers from more than 100 countries are now meeting in London to tighten up the protocol. With CFCs, every year counts: they should adopt the 1997 target for phasing them out, now supported by some Western countries, including some members of the European Community. This conference is the most serious test so far of the world's ability to combat not only the damage to the ozone layer, but other more complex threats to the environment. These negotiations go beyond target-setting to implementation, including an international fund to induce all developing countries — and in particular, China and India, which have not signed the convention — to make the switch to safer substances.

This is all extremely expensive. The global costs have been estimated at more than £2 billion for the chemicals industry, but £60 billion for their customers. The participation of developing countries is essential. An immediate, total ban in the industrialised world would be negated if China continued to develop CFCs. The new fund, providing a maximum of £140 million for the first three years, is dramatic only in the precedent it sets.

Yet success is not a foregone conclusion: Washington dropped its objections to a fund only last month after a personal appeal by Mrs Thatcher to President Bush. The US is still setting conditions which could jeopardise agreement and thus Chinese and Indian adherence to the protocol. After a week of prior negotiation, officials left the politicians a

thicket of trouble, both on the time-table for phasing out CFCs and on the conditions attaching to the new fund, to be resolved by Saturday at the latest.

Mrs Thatcher yesterday tried to rally the troops to "higher targets and shorter deadlines". Pledging £5.3 billion in "new money" for the fund, and nearly £9 million if China and India sign the protocol, she sympathised with the developing countries' case for special assistance. It was "the duty of the industrialised countries to help them obtain and adopt the substitute technologies which will enable them to avoid our mistakes".

Development of alternatives could, however, be threatened by excessive zeal. Environmental groups are already campaigning for restrictions on HCFCs and HFCs, CFC-related coolants which are far less damaging to the ozone layer. These gases have other drawbacks: HFCs are greenhouse gases, even if less potent. The chemicals industry accepts that they are only transitional solutions. But the environmental lobby's preferred coolants, helium or propane, pose safety risks and will not be commercially viable until after 2000.

Mrs Thatcher was right to emphasise the inventiveness of industry which, under consumer pressure, has adapted more rapidly than governments to the post-CFC world. She should have matched this, as she did not yesterday, by unequivocal commitment to the 1997 target. The government's Stratospheric Ozone Review Group, which confirmed the depletion of the ozone layer in winter over Europe and North America last month, seeks an 85 per cent reduction by 1995 in industrial countries. The trade and industry department believes a total ban by 1997 to be feasible.

Even then, and assuming cooperation by developing countries, the ozone layer will not be restored until 2050, so long do CFCs linger in the atmosphere. Banning a handful of chemicals, however widely used, is child's play compared to cutting carbon dioxide emissions. Should the CFC experiment in cooperation falter, the likelihood of agreeing a convention on carbon dioxide in 1992 will be poor indeed.

## POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCES

No country has a greater sense of occasion than Britain. No monarchy plays its part to such perfection. But no capital pays a higher price for a nation's passion for pageantry. Yesterday, one of many celebrations of the 90th birthday of the Queen Mother in August jammed traffic solid in central London in both the morning and evening rush hours. The cost of the congestion must have run into hundreds of thousands of pounds.

Nobody grudges the Queen Mother her birthday honour, least of all *The Times*. But her birthday is still five weeks away. The parade gained nothing by the chaos and confusion it produced on the public streets. Like the plethora of state visits, summit conferences and parliamentary occasions — not to mention the occasional demonstration — the Queen Mother's premature celebration was inflicted on a hard-working city, midweek and at the most frustrating time of day. The time has surely come to reconsider the timing of these events, and their location.

There is no reason, for instance, why so many of the formal processions need be in London at all. For the Queen Mother, a parade in the Scottish capital might have been even more appropriate, given her numerous Hibernian associations. Not only would the Athens of the North have formed an admirable backdrop, but its citizens and tourists would doubtless have taken much pleasure in the privilege.

Most state visits now seem to begin in the capital on Tuesday mornings. Seated beside the Queen, the guest rides from Victoria station to Buckingham Palace along a route which is by no means the shortest, with the centre of London cordoned off to give the visitors a privileged view of the city like some

Soviet party boss riding through Moscow. Increasingly bored citizens no longer wave flags at exotics from abroad. They merely gaze at them and curse.

Why could not more of these guests arrive at Windsor? The town's great castle, favourite home of the Sovereign, is far more convenient to Heathrow. Less than an hour from the capital, it is an ideal place for the monarch to receive foreign heads of state and then dispatch them about their further business. Windsor is little used for this purpose. Alternatively, eminent visitors could be received in London in the evening, after the rush-hour traffic has dispersed.

The calendar of state occasions goes only as far back as Queen Victoria. The televising of the present Queen's coronation and, later, the Prince of Wales's investiture embraced a national audience and encouraged ever larger and more elaborate royal ceremonies, which present a splendid showcase to the world. But if television is the access rather than the public streets, then location and timing should be adapted accordingly.

So much disruption now stifles London that more effective controls are sorely needed. The interests of Londoners need to be considered by that cabal of courtiers, soldiers and civil servants who can, apparently by fiat, impose gridlock on the West End. Parliament and the central borough councils should show more backbone in questioning the arrangements of these parades. The days are long gone when London was a centre of anti-royalist sentiment, when organised bands drove monarchists from the capital and cheered the regicides. Modern London likes its royalty, but would like it more in smaller doses.

## Ulster doubt on power-sharing

From Dr Laurence Kennedy  
Sir, Richard Ford (report, June 20) seems to imply that the Government, and therefore the Conservative Party, favours, as a matter of policy, a "power-sharing" legislative assembly in Northern Ireland. That is simply not the case.

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland is pledged to seek a form of devolution which has the broad acceptance of all the constitutional parties in the province, and in the event of such a development some (unspecified) functions of the Anglo-Irish Conference can be transferred to the new provincial body. That is the extent of the Government's manifesto commitment on this particular issue. There is no specific reference to "power-sharing", and legislation, currently the responsibility of the Westminster parliament, is specifically not a function of the Anglo-Irish Conference.

The Conservative Party is now itself one of the constitutional parties in Northern Ireland with an electoral interest, so its position concerning any potential form of devolution is no longer one of neutrality.

Because the decision to organise and contest elections in Northern Ireland was taken only nine months ago there is, understandably, no defined policy on this issue. However, I can state unequivocally that our Conservative associations in Northern Ireland believe that legislation for the province should continue to be the responsibility of Westminster, and that it would be wholly inappropriate for the Conservative Party, which aims to break down the communal voting pattern traditionally seen in Northern Ireland, to agree, in advance of elections to any provincial assembly, to share power with other parties, be they unionist or nationalist, whose appeal is purely communal.

Yours faithfully,  
LAURENCE KENNEDY  
(Chairman, Northern Ireland Area Council, Conservative Party),  
3 My Lady's Mile,  
Holywood,  
County Down,  
June 22.

## Football violence

From Mr Clive Hindle  
Sir, Lord Ferrers (June 23) is able to reassure us that the preparations for effective policing of English supporters in further rounds of the World Cup are complete.

When I arrived in Cagliari on June 16 I did so on my own, not as a member of an organized party, and did not have to bide my time in the compound reserved for English supporters. None the less, I saw them ordered into a procession to the ground by police firing into the air in what resembled a Western round-up.

I followed the procession and saw an officer lead a charge through the English fans in order to gain a position nearer the vanguard of the procession. Others made frequent use of rifle butts to propel along in a jog those who would have preferred to walk.

I could see no reason why the police should fire tear-gas into a group of supporters who were retreating before stone-throwers. Those arrested were made to kneel in a garage forecourt, seemingly so that the press could take pictures of the tamed hooligans.

I saw beatings of men and women supporters who were unable to defend themselves, including one youngster who was clearly unconscious. If Lord Ferrers had been in the right place at the right time he might have pondered the difference between "effective" and excessive policing.

Yours faithfully,  
CLIVE M. HINDLE  
(Senior partner),  
Hindle Campbell, solicitors,  
6 Northumberland Square,  
North Shields,  
Tyne and Wear,  
June 25.

## Need for CFCs

From Mr M. B. F. Ranken  
Sir, On the eve of the Montreal Protocol Review Conference "on substances that deplete the ozone layer" we are being told on all sides that, whether or not alternatives are available, the use of CFCs should be stopped.

So far as the refrigeration industry is concerned, the accusation by Greenpeace that nothing is being done to phase out CFCs is untrue. The search for alternatives started several years ago and is being pursued most vigorously, and with some success for certain applications.

However, it must be said that, in respect of R12, the most commonly-used working fluid (refrigerant) in home and commercial refrigerators and freezers, in refrigerated containers, rail wagons and lorries, in many entrepot cold stores and in large numbers of ships, no satisfactory alternative has been found which is environmentally friendly, safe and technically efficient. Nor is any fluid in sight which could replace R12 without major modifications to plant, or its complete replacement. Many billions of pounds and dollars and yen and every other currency are invested in plant with normal working lives of 15 to 25 years and more.

If environmentalists and politicians force a complete ban on all the CFCs, are they prepared to live

## Fatal delay in heart case treatment

From Dr Michael Joy  
Sir, This afternoon has been spent counselling in bereavement — in itself unremarkable for a doctor, although the widow said that he felt that his wife had been murdered. It was not difficult to see through his anguish and distinguish his anger and frustration at the "system" that he felt had failed him.

He was about to retire and he and his wife were looking forward to their retirement together. Then she got angina. We saw her and our evaluation suggested severe coronary artery disease. One hundred and fifty days later her coronary anatomy was studied at our regional centre and the diagnosis confirmed. Intervention was advised. Both the patient and her husband found the wait for it nerve-racking and became increasingly despondent and hopeless about the future when the expected call did not come.

One hundred and forty-four days later she was admitted here

with unstable angina but could not be transferred for emergency intervention for four further days. There were no beds. Angioplasty was unsuccessful and subsequently, following a massive heart attack, she died before surgery, taking with her the plans for the future they both had made. Resources in the public sector had not stretched far enough to save her life.

We have had 21 other patients since 1979 who have died needlessly on our waiting lists for cardiovascular investigation or surgery and there is to be a further cut-back this year to save money. No doubt they, like this patient, thought that the health service was safe in Tory hands.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL JOY  
(Consultant cardiologist),  
St Peter's District General Hospital,  
Guildford Road, Chertsey, Surrey,  
June 19.

## Calcult proposals on press reform

From Mr Tom Welsh

Sir, Simon Jenkins says (article, June 22) that the Calcult committee, of which he was a member, took the view it was "feasible" for a court to hear intrusions by the press except in the public interest. As editor of *The Times* he is in an excellent position to give an authoritative view on this and one which he had expanded on it. According to David Waddington (article, June 22) the proposal is that

journalists or others entering or using surveillance on private property without invitation, in order to get hold of personal details for publication, should be held guilty of a criminal offence.

Many newspaper investigations that have led to the exposure of crime, corruption and other misconduct have used these methods. Calcult says it should be a defence that the intrusion was under lawful authority, for the purposes of preventing, detecting or exposing crime or other seriously anti-social conduct, or for the purpose of protecting public health or safety.

A public-interest defence of this sort is useful — and some would say essential in a democracy — as a protection against prosecutions for otherwise unlawful publication. But how can it be a defence against prosecution for otherwise unlawful activity in the process of investigation? The essence of such investigation is that, at this stage, the journalist has no evidence, persuasive in court, that crime or other seriously anti-social conduct was going on. If he had, why would he want to investigate further?

Consider, for example, an investigation by two reporters of *The Times* that led to the jailing of two detectives for corruption. In the Court of Appeal Lord Justice Edmund Davies paid tribute to the "great public service" rendered by the two (report, June 27, 1973).

It was... mainly their inquisitiveness and skill which laid the hidden cancer which, if unchecked, could have done even greater and incalculable damage to law enforcement.

Earlier, during the trial, prosecution counsel said the charges

the cause of the dispute is a shortage of staff. No doubt this is true in one or two establishments; but there has been a dramatic improvement in the ratio of officers to inmates. In 1950 the ratio in male establishments was one officer to 6.37 inmates; in women's it was one to 6.85. On January 1 this year it was one officer to 2.42 inmates in male establishments and one to 1.82 in women's.

Unhappily, it is clear that some leaders of the union were never reconciled to the introduction of the Fresh Start proposals. They complain about staff shortages, claiming that 600 more officers are required immediately and still more next year. Yet no justification is ever given for these figures. Is it possible that some want a return to overtime?

We will not succeed in creating civilised regimes in our prisons as long as these prolonged campaigns of disruption by some members of the POA are allowed to continue. Yours sincerely,  
HARRIS OF GREENWICH,  
House of Lords,  
June 26.

## Disputes in prisons

From Lord Harris of Greenwich

Sir, It now appears that within the next few days the leadership of the Prison Officers' Association may launch another campaign of disruption in the prisons.

The consequences of this action are obvious. Once again all available police cells will be packed with remand prisoners who will, despite the best efforts of the police, often live in abominable conditions; yet, of course, they will not have been convicted of any criminal offence. Hundreds of police officers will be withdrawn from the streets to act as gaolers; the army may have to be used, once again, to hold prisoners in camps. Yet those responsible for creating this chaos will not lose a penny of their pay.

The POA leadership tell us that

would have lasted "only seven minutes", in which time the jury would have returned a verdict of not guilty, without the evidence of the two reporters, obtained by surreptitious tape recording.

Would not the Calcult make such an investigation impossible? A law-abiding news editor cannot instruct his reporters to use their tape recorders when he knows they face a conviction and an injunction the moment they turn their machines on. It is no consolation to know that they might have had a defence if they had been allowed to keep them running.

On the face of it, the proposed provisions present another big hurdle for investigative journalists, who have many legal obstacles to overcome already.

Yours faithfully,  
TOM WELSH (joint editor,  
*McNee's Essential Law for Journalists*),  
2/3 Broom Close,  
Broughton-in-Furness, Cumbria,  
June 25.

From Mr Gerald Priestland  
Sir, There is something ludicrous about the spectacle of the ruling classes trying to reform the newspapers of the working classes (which they do not read). Such moral buffings and puffings! Such positively last warnings!

The law as it now exists is quite enough to punish the excesses of the press — or would be if it was available promptly and irrespective of wealth. But I think it is only right that part at least of the press should be a bit disreputable, should have at least one foot in the gutter where the guilty secrets are. It will be a sad day for democracy when the respectable can boast they have tamed the press.

In the meantime, we might all ask ourselves why it is that the majority of the population prefers to read rubbish and finds the quality press either too boring or too lacking in relevance to their lives. Can it be a question of faulty education? Or should it be left to market forces?

I am of course your devoted reader,  
GERALD PRIESTLAND,  
4 Temple Fortune Lane, NW11.

## Carlton club bomb

From Mr Desmond Burgess

Sir, As a resident of St James's who arrived at the scene of the bombing of the Carlton club (report, June 26) within 15 seconds I would like to place on record the following.

The police arrived ahead of me, taking instant charge of the situation. Suspecting a second device, they gave warnings to stand clear. The police entered the club through the front door after three or four minutes (the smoke and fumes, although subsiding, were still, if not dangerous, very nauseating). The fire service and ambulances arrived in about six minutes.

For those hurt and for the club last evening was a very cruel and sad occasion, but for the three services it was a glorious spectacle of courage, devotion to duty and marked professionalism.

The police should receive an accolade.

I am, yours sincerely,  
DESMOND BURGESS,  
25 Blue Ball Yard,  
St James's Street, SW1,  
June 26.

## Wimbledon memory

From Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. T. MacFaridge

Sir, When I was a boy in Dublin in the 1920s I (Joshua) Pim was my doctor (I remember him well visiting when I was suffering from measles) and F. O. Stoker was my dentist. I did!

Pim won Wimbledon in 1893 and 1894, and with Stoker won the doubles in 1890 and 1893. If ever a boy enjoyed visits to his doctor and dentist, I did!

Yours sincerely,  
CHARLES MACFARIDGE,  
Henderside Lodge,  
Whynstones Road,  
Ascot,  
Berkshire,  
June 23.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

## Restoring their ancestral bones

From Mrs Jane Hubert

Sir, The Australian Aborigines are certainly not alone in having a valid claim to the return of their human remains (leading article, June 18). Other indigenous peoples, particularly many American and Canadian Indian groups, are negotiating for collections of the bones of their ancestors from university departments and museums all over the world (and some reburying from American institutions have already taken place).

They also believe in the need for the bones of their dead to rest in peace in the ground. All your arguments apply equally well to these groups.

The whole issue of returning skeletal remains to groups "entitled to regain the pride in themselves and their history which is the right of every people" was first raised by Australian Aborigines and native Americans in an international archaeological context at the World Archaeological Congress (WAC) in Southampton in 1986.

A WAC inter-congress on "Archaeological Ethics and the Treatment of the Dead" was held in Vermillion, South Dakota, last August. Archaeologists and indigenous people (some of whom were also archaeologists) agreed an accord calling for respect for the remains of the dead "irrespective of origin, race, religion, nationality, custom and tradition". It states that

agreement on the disposition of fossil, skeletal, mummified and other remains shall be reached by negotiation on the basis of mutual respect for the legitimate concerns of communities for the proper disposition of their ancestors, as well as the legitimate concerns of science and education.

Let us hope that your intervention in the debate will influence those museum curators and trustees who do not yet appear to have moved away from the 19th-century presuppositions and attitudes to recognize the justice of these claims.

Yours faithfully,  
JANE HUBERT,  
The University of Southampton,  
Department of Psychology,  
Murray Building,  
Salisbury Road,  
Southampton,  
Hampshire,  
June 21.

## Pitdown forgery

From Dr C. Stringer

Sir, May I take this opportunity to correct Bernard Levin's misapprehension ("Was the expert of expert history's greatest skulduggery?", June 21) about the conclusions of Frank Spencer's study of Pitdown, which is to be published by this museum and Oxford University Press next October.

Spencer builds on the archival research of the late Ian Langham to show there was a link between Dawson and Keith prior to the Pitdown finds, and contrary to Keith's published account of their first meeting in 1913.

Several other lines of evidence show that Keith knew more about Pitdown than he should have done in 1912. So Spencer (and Langham) argue that Keith was the sought-after "second man" discussed by Bernard Levin.

Yours faithfully,  
CHRIS STRINGER  
(Head of anthropology),  
The Natural History Museum,  
Department of Palaeontology,  
Cromwell Road, SW7,  
June 21.

## From Mr Cecil Gould

Sir, Bernard Levin writes that he finds it difficult to believe that Sir Arthur Keith was a "kind of palaeontological Benson, certifying fakes with both hands and taking a rake-off from each". Since only very few of the certificates which Bernard Benson wrote for the firm of Duveen have ever been published it is difficult to know how Mr Levin comes to have first-hand knowledge of the subject.

My experience is that in doubtful cases Benson's judgement was sometimes flexible, but I should be surprised if he ever certified as genuine a picture which he was sure was a forgery. And it is undeniable that the majority of his published attributions have stood the test of time.

Yours,  
CECIL GOULD (Keeper and deputy director, National Gallery, 1973-78),  
Jubilee House, Thorncombe, near Chard,  
Somerset,  
June 21.

## Wimbledon memory

From Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. T. MacFaridge

Sir, When I was a boy in Dublin in the 1920s I (Joshua) Pim was my doctor (I remember him well visiting when I was suffering from measles) and F. O. Stoker was my dentist. I did!

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FICTION

# Belgians are not really that boring

Victoria Glendinning on the Flemish *Ulysses* with the Nazis and turnips

**T**his is the Great Belgian Novel. If the statement is a contradiction in terms, then that, among much else, is the sorrow of Belgium — an independent state only since 1830, linguistically divided, trodden underfoot in two world wars. But this is not exactly a "poor little Belgium" book. It shows how and why many of the inhabitants of such a country, insecure and historically accustomed to occupation, collaborated with the Nazis. Small unimportant states, this book suggests, do not think in large, objective terms any more than do small unimportant individuals. This is a prescription for moral death. But if there is condemnation here, it is subsumed by facts, and by the recurring word "sorrow".

The novel was published in Dutch seven years ago, and is already labelled a classic. The author is a poet, a dramatist and a film-maker, as well as a novelist, and he brings the skills of all these roles to his 600 pages. To give yourself up to *The Sorrow of Belgium* is to remember what total immersion in a book felt like in adolescence. The book sees the years 1939 to 1947 through the eyes of Louis, a clever, dreamy, innocent west Flemish schoolboy. The needs of grown-ups pull Louis this way and that; it is not only his adolescent sexuality that draws him to certain adults, but the frustrated desires of nuns, priests, aunts — who use and abuse his body and his emotions. His heart is "a little night-light, bowing to every draft", just as the political allegiances of his elders bow, with shameless oppor-

## THE SORROW OF BELGIUM

By Hugo Claus

Translated by Arnold J. Pomeroy  
Viking, £14.99

tunism, to shifting circumstances. This novel, so far from changing one's vision of Belgium, confirms the stereotypes. These are fiercely, mystically Catholic people; they are at the same time commercial people, and crudely animal. Digestion and the natural functions, like the acquisition of cash, dominate life. Never was there so much eating and belching. Rice pudding, milk chocolate, toffee, caramels, cakes, ice-cream, fêlairs, mille-feuilles, nougat, shortbread, waffles and syrup, mutton stew, calf's head, jellyed pork, pickled herrings, fried potatoes — and rich mayonnaise with everything. Drunken Uncle Armand has greasy tips and bloodshot eyes, Aunt Violet is overweight with a purple wart under her chin, and her teeth are like pieces of turnip. Grandmother makes a sound like "a jackal choking on too large a chunk of rotting zebra".

Uncle Omer is the first to say "Heil Hitler", as a joke. Hitler was a phenomenon. "You simply can't beat German organisation." There were Fascist groups in Belgium as in other countries. But idealistic non-Fascist Flemish nationalists, after the invasion, also see Hitler as advantageous to Flemings, "a fraternal Germanic people", the pan-Dutch movement sees him as furthering their cause, and Aunt Mona simply thinks that Germans



know how to treat women. Louis's pretty, discontented mother gets a job at the factory for aeroplane spare parts set up by the Germans, and makes love and money. Sleek German officers leap up the steps of the mobby French-speaking tennis club. "Belgians never leap, have not done so for generations." To the political and cultural interest-groups operating in Flanders, catering for rival local aspirations, the Germans seemed to offer hope — and wages. After the war, when accounts were settled, Louis's feeble, opportunistic Papa could claim with some justice that he himself was not sure for what or

whom he had worked, "so how can other people possibly tell?" Everyone is looking after number one. Even Louis, ever watchful, cannot see structures, "only things". When he leaves the Hitler Youth movement, it is not because he has seen the light, but because he was bullied in the showers. But was moral myopia the collaborators' own fault, or their history?

Because of its gritty naturalism, its flights into fantasy, and its narrative momentum, this is not a depressing book to read. The depression comes afterwards. You remember that Uncle Omer went mad, and that Louis's beloved schoolfriend killed himself. Hitler's dream of a Great Europe, by other means and in other hands, lives on. The anti-Fascist Jesuit who loves Louis tells him: "Europe always has been and always will be a pile of little countries thrown together higgledy-piggledy which'll always fight tooth and nail for their own national specialities, for their spaghetti, for their Pale Ale, for their Goethe." This implies that while the rest of Europe will fight to eat and drink, only Germany fights for an idea. (Not true.) An upsetting book. No heroes.

# Ghastly little rich girl in Chiantiland

John Nicholson

## FOREIGN BODIES

By Amanda Craig  
Hutchinson, £12.95

## HAPPY DIVORCE

By Gerry Silverman  
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £13

## FOUR BARE LEGS IN A BED AND OTHER STORIES

By Helen Simpson  
Heinemann, £12.95

**P**UBLISHERS may not know much, but they do know what happens to books launched in a week when Wimbledon coincides with the World Cup. So don't expect anything extravagant in this week's new book bag. What emerges instead is a couple of cries for help that I found all too easy to resist. The first emanates from Emma Kenward, a Poor Little Rich Girl with a year to kill before setting off to bring Oxford to its — or at least her — knees. The heroine of Amanda Craig's first novel, *Foreign Bodies*, is 18, timesomely bright, and outraged by her parents' not unreasonable suggestion that a little unpairing or secretarial course might provide a suitable way to fill the gap. Emboldened by a recent legacy (now there's a device I never expected to see again), she stamps her little foot, dons her cloak and runs away to Tuscany ("My dear, how charming, revisiting our old haunts!", taunts her mother).

Emma's welcome from the expatriate community in Santeramo is lukewarm. They're a motley crew of drop-out account directors, would-be artists, and wine-worshippers, too wrapped up in their own little dramas to give Emma the attention she craves. Her American friend Sylvia is impatient with Emma's innocent questions, though keen enough to advise her on how to spend her legacy. The older woman is out of sorts, having recently been deserted by long-time lover, Dave. Some men like doormats, the rest

prefer bathmats, complains Sylvia, though she doesn't specify which category contains Dave's new paramour Izzy, an English heiress who has just ditched her husband, Slim.

Disarmed by her countrymen's antics, Emma turns to the indigenous population for spiritual uplift. And what could be more uplifting than the direct Latin approach employed by Lucio Pistola, a local musician whose oeuvre owes more to Vangelis than to Monteverdi, and who sets about deflowering the young English signorina with an artist's attention to detail. Three days it takes, each one described in breathless schoolgirl prose by the exhausted but exhilarated Emma.

Lucio's family is unimpressed. Nor is the smart set at the Palazzo Felice too delighted when they learn that their young protégée has developed a taste for a bit of rough. The Contessa's nose

twitches. Even Dr Andrew Evenlode, Young Fogey Cinquante specialist, whose vote Emma believes kept her out of her first-choice college, and who just happens to be staying at the palazzo (what a coincidence!) emits a snort of pique. Emma is undaunted. She rogers on, stopping only when she learns that she is not the sole current recipient of the crafty troubadour's attentions. It all becomes messy when her rival's identity is revealed. Alas, poor Sylvia!

By now, Emma has decided not to bother with boring old Oxford. A visit from Papa fails to convince her otherwise. Shortly after her limo departs, however, Amanda Craig suddenly changes the rules of the game. We are transported, without explanation, from Mills & Boon to Thrills 'n' Spills, as if she recognises that nothing less than dynamite will shift the stubborn little biddy she has created. So we get a forest fire, a body in the sea, even an attempt on our heroine's life (utterly unconvincing, since no Italian driver ever came off second best in an aggressive encounter with a pedestrian), before Emma finally sees the light and jumps the Florence Express to find herself in the company of — you've guessed it — her old bête noir, Dr Evenlode.

Mostly good clean fun, with one or two effective digs at the inhabitants of Chiantiland, the book is instantly forgettable. The taste of psychiatrist Gerry Silverman's first novel, *Happy Divorce*, lingers

longer in the mouth, and it is not a pleasant one. Harry Zetter (zany name, zany guy) is getting divorced — acrimoniously and very expensively. He meets up with old crony Baruch Herzheimer (sic), and before you can say Soft Core Porn, the disgusting pair are in bed with a couple of girls young enough to be their daughters (sic). Well, not actually in bed, of course, so much as on the floor, in the bath, everywhere where a menopausal male ever dreamt he might do unspeakable things to willing schoolgirls.

Things get a little more interesting when Harry penetrates the world of one of the girl's parents, and falls for her mother. There are one or two genuinely funny moments, and even a couple of half-hearted attempts to give this disgraceful book a message.

Helen Simpson, by contrast, has no difficulty in conveying the seriousness of her intent. *Four Bare Legs in a Bed* is a collection of short stories that I regard as outstanding, but find impossible to review. Her subjects are too varied. Consider just a few of them: jealousy, fantasy, mothers-in-law, beds, neighbours, pregnancy, birth, child prostitutes, sexual harassment, one-night stands, landladies, and early-morning gardening in the nude. Locations are mainly here and now, but there are brief excursions to fourth-century Lycia and 17th-century rural England. Miss Simpson is that sort of writer. You should read her.

# Carry on up the sit-com

Michael Wright

## FAIR DO'S

By David Nobbs  
Methuen, £12.99

**C**AROL Fordebridge giggled. "But Elvis, is a fictitious minor character allowed to review the very book in which he appears?" Elvis Simcock, ace reporter, signed. All the novel's main characters were at the publication party, and a satirical piece was treasured. It wasn't his fault if his ex-fiancee hadn't heard of post-Modernism.

"Well, what do you think of the book?" he asked nonchalantly, hoping Carol wouldn't notice him switching on his dictaphone. "I think it's rather fun," she replied. "But won't people think we spend our lives committing faux pas at nightmarish receptions?"

Ted Simcock, former toasting-fork magnate, overheard her remark and lumbered over. "All those awful bun fights," Ted boomed. "All that sarcasm. It's like watching a car with only one gear being driven very hard round seven laps of the same circuit, and not at all amusing..." "Shut-up, Ted," said Rita. "Still, I must say that the book does have the whiff of a rather badly disguised script for a telly sit-com." Elvis gasped at his mother's boldness.

"A telly sit-com? That's what happened last time. But what about the Pathetic Fallacy and the careful structuring of all those little formulaic repetitions, highlighting the fiction but imposing a paradoxical irony? That's not sit-comic, is it?" Rita and Ted looked at each other in horror, unsure whether to be impressed or to throw up. Fortunately, at that moment a waitress waited over, carrying a tray dotted with seven grey vol-au-vents, each filled with a gooey putty approximating tuna. The tension in the room subsided. "Sandra!" exclaimed Rita. "How are things?" "Terrific. Couldn't be better," scowled Sandra. "I see what you mean about the sarcasm, dad," Elvis muttered.

And then it hit him. The vol-au-vents. The master analogy. Seven little mouthfuls on a tray. All made to the same recipe. All the same size. All bland. And wasn't that just like the seven chapters of the novel he was reviewing? Giggity, he bit into one of the congealed masses. "Good!" asked Sandra, without conviction. "Not bad," he replied, meditatively. "They're lighter than I'd expected and — mmm — they're quite spicy, aren't they?"

"Want the other six, then?" "You joking? Have you ever eaten seven tuna-fish vol-au-vents all in one go?" "No way. I mean, you never really feel satisfied, do you? You just feel like you've had too many vol-au-vents." Elvis smiled. "Have you read Nobbs's book yet, Sandra?"

"Me? No. I think I'll wait for it to come out on telly. Why?" "Oh, I just wondered," improvised the ace reporter, wandering off.

# Spivs, spies, and class warfare

## THRILLERS

Chris Petti

## SLEEPING DOGS

By William Garner  
Grafton, £12.95

**I**N WILLIAM Garner's *Sleeping Dogs*, Kate Mallory, a novelist in revolt against her upper-crust family, discovers the father she never really knew only after his death. A shrouded past suggests something in intelligence, but the official version of loyal service is at odds with her own research, which reveals — what's new? — a dark background of betrayal and silence; not least of Dad's transgressions was marrying above his station. Garner, a superior practitioner of the genre, displays a Fowlesian eye for class warfare, and provides a tart analysis of the English predilection for secrecy and its adjuncts — hypocrisy and compromise — and of that most secret society, the English aristocracy, now forced into alliance with financial spivs to make capital from a dwindling heritage. Garner is less certain on other ranks and foreigners, but does convincing portraits, warts and all, of all that is rotten in the state, and of the classish complacency that less Philby — who inevitably features — exploits the system. *Beta Double Plus*, query Alpha Double Minus.

Further evidence of a sourness in things domestic is found in *Acts of Betrayal* (Collins, £13.95) by John Trenhaile, who, like Garner, suggests that, with the Cold War in retreat, the English thriller writer can usefully look to home. A Conservative government, concerned about its dwindling popularity, finds a way to reintroduce capital punishment through the back door via high treason, still punishable by hanging; a neat twist, played early, never really topped. Accused is a former barrister linked to shadowy IRA mastermind Brennan, a philosophical maverick with a Buddhist bent. Much shuffling as ranks are closed to cover suspicions of a fit-up; journalist to the rescue in the shape of a *Times* female deputy editor, who enlists the aid of tabloid hack to prevent a miscarriage of justice. Cue in a Hong Kong connection, and that old standby sub-plot of two men loving the same woman; can journo beat the deadline with a late cavalry charge? Well-digested research, effective newspaper and courtroom business delivered at a clip are pluses, but there's an odd lurch into Dennis Wheatley territory when the Satanic villain goes mumbo-jumbo, and a murky climax is the result. *Beta Plus Query Plus*.

Dreary England takes a further pasting in *Toynshop* (Collins, £12.95) by Andrew Taylor, when East German Gerhard gets a plum posting (and pulls out an unexpectedly large stone) as successor to his late brother Wolfgang, exporter of children's toys, killed in a fire. Just what was Wolfgang up to both Stasi and Special Branch want to know, and why does the body count rise with Gerhard's arrival? Taylor borrows a trick from the old Harry Lime and Holly Martins relationship in *The Third Man* — infatuation and trust betrayed — and makes London feel as nasty as Greene's Vienna. There's little to recommend — gangs, beggars, muggers, nasty beer, ghastly suburbs, a bedsit in Ealing, and a girlfriend in Kensal Rise. She and he make touching babes-in-the-woods, and their progress through a seedy world given to outbursts of hostility is all the more effective for

being recognisable. *Beta Double Plus*.

Best joke of the month: "A friend of Charlie's once made the mistake of wearing a sports jacket to interview the Shah of Iran, and wound up on the secret police files as a dangerous subversive." Most appealing hero of this present batch is in *The Last Supper* (Michael Joseph, £13.99) by Sean Hardie. The pleasantly undistinguished Charlie, hack TV documentary director, gets the job and the girl, to his surprise, when she — the biographically inventive Julia — hires him to direct a live political discussion in Israel: a set-up from the word go. Bodies end up in boots, and even the feckless Charlie suspects he's in a frame. Expectations of a routine comedy thriller are pleasantly thwarted by Hardie's ear for Charlotte Street restaurant talk, his sharp eye for the compromised ambitions of the media's forsythings, a wry and informative history of Israel, and a feeling that Hardie cares for his story and characters, and works hard on their behalf. Such a light touch does not, one suspects, come easily. *Beta Double Plus*.

Julian Rathbone has made his own a genre that could be called the Eurothriller, whose main attraction, the cynical might say, lies in tax-deductible research. *The Pandora Option* (Heinemann, £13.95) clocks up mileage — Italy, Germany East and West, Austria, Poland and Turkey — in pursuit of two flasks of polluted fungi from tampered grain silos in Iran. John Danby, whose firm built the silos, finds himself chasing and chased, and chastened to boot, because his young wife is on a runner with her even younger lover, the brattish lippy, whose survival is testament to the author's tolerance. Rathbone, in holiday mood, allows Danby and reader plenty of time off for sight-seeing and galleries. The bemused Danby is an exception in a world full of the fit, the beautiful, the dangerous, and the effortlessly casual — and likeable for it: a picky man in a tracksuit, more Gene Hackman than Cary Grant. *Beta Plus Brackets Plus*.

Arthur Hailey's exhaustive research results in writing in bulk. *The Evening News* (Doubleday, £13.95) weighs in at a fraction under 2lb: the weak-wristed beware. A back-of-the-envelope plot traces rivalry between two TV news journalists, adds enormous documentation, impressive in tenacity if nothing else, on how US news networks function, and collides them with a kidnap plot that rounds up the usual terrorists. Cue that old standby sub-plot of two men loving the same woman: can journo beat the deadline with a late cavalry charge? Much location-hopping to those parts of the world that package tours don't reach offers suitable reading fodder for safe beaches, providing one can afford a holiday long enough for an exhausting 500 pages plus. *Beta Plus*.

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**Brian Morton**

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By David Owen  
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undemanding research job, and a faithful domestic animal that eats only what it's told to. Enough? Of course not. Coping with pleasure is a tough brief.

There's probably no spectacle more dispiriting than the deliberate pursuit of unhappiness, or at least the relentless dissection of what happiness is available, but that's the task Pluto sets himself. Then he receives a letter from Professor Jim Harris, an ageing haematologist and student of mysticism, who wants to avail himself of Pluto's on-line facilities to scan the remaining stacks, shelves, and fishes and commission a quick — that is, three days quick — PhD.

*Coping with Pleasure* is a tough and occasionally moving satire on the five-minute culture, a passionate Quest for the Great Unhappiness, a little tragic fibre to add to the ho-hum round of what passes for success and contentment. Again, it's not us but the animals that hold the answers.

rd. Bea... mus, D  
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Peter France-TLS February 2-8 1990  
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## SCULPTURE

# Vision for the docks

A huge budget for new visual art will transform Cardiff.

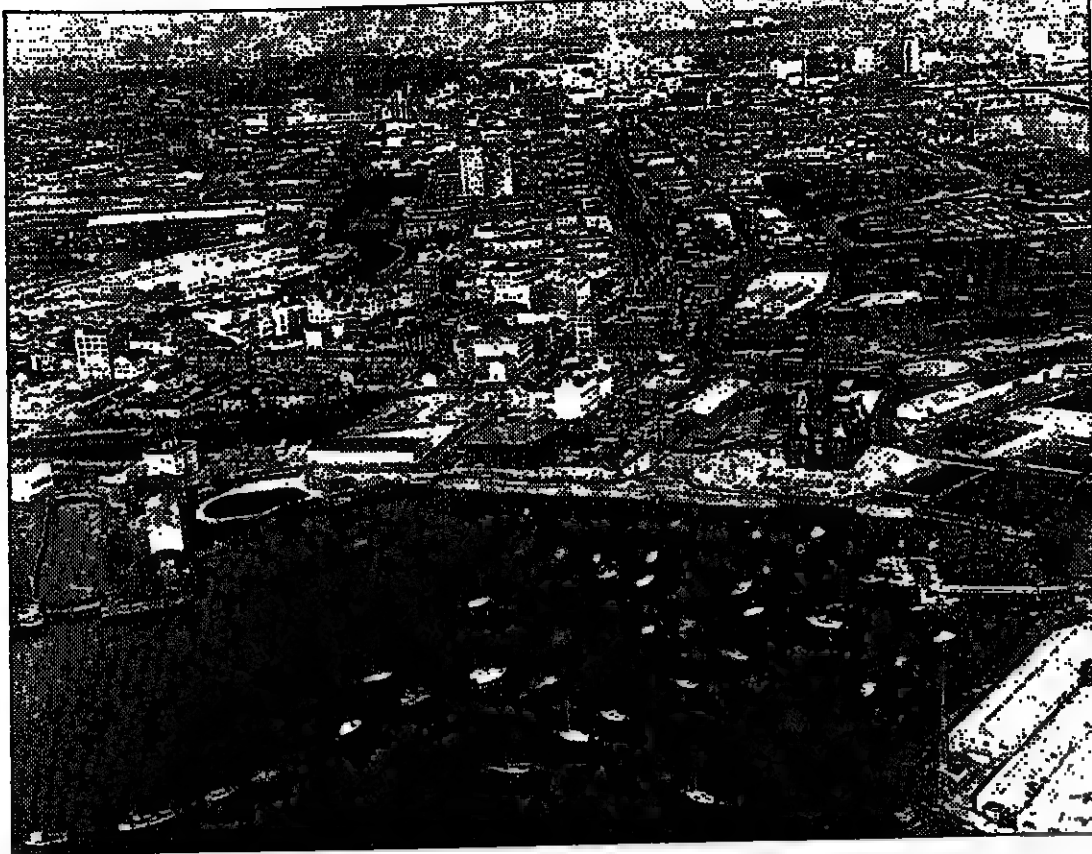
Report by Andrew Gibbon Williams

Wales is noted more for its song and its rugby than for visual art's adventure. So it will surprise many to learn that Cardiff is to be the first city in Britain this century in which art, architecture and the environment are going to be developed in harmony by official decree. But if the huge project planned by the Cardiff Bay Development Corporation comes to fruition, that is what will happen.

Yesterday at the ICA in London, the chairman of the Arts Council of Great Britain, Peter Palumbo, launched the Corporation's "Strategy for Public Art" and announced the establishment of the Cardiff Bay Arts Trust as the body which will implement it. Over the next 10 years, some £350 million of public money will be ploughed into the biggest dockland development scheme in Europe.

The former slum areas of Butetown (typified most famously by Tiger Bay, now a wasteland of dreary anonymous public housing), the derelict docksides areas and the redundant docks themselves — some 2,700 acres in all — will be transformed into an area similar in character to the waterfront in Boston or the small-scale South Street Seaport in Manhattan.

Anybody who has paid attention to "public art" in recent years — the assertive trivia which litters the area surrounding Les Halles in Paris is a case in point — will be familiar with the impression of art being added to a new development as an afterthought. What gives ground for optimism about the Cardiff scheme is that public art had been envisaged as being incorporated from the outset. What is more, it forms a central plank of the planning. This is



An aerial view of Cardiff Bay, site of the biggest dockland development scheme in Europe

thanks to the aggressive persuasion of the Birmingham-based Public Art Commissions Agency which is acting as a consultancy to the Corporation.

The PACA has produced a detailed strategy outlining what can be achieved in Cardiff and how it will be brought about: numerous foreign precedents are cited, projected art works are described and the financial mechanisms which will encourage and permit their realisation are outlined. The lynch-pin of the strategy is the "per cent for art" principle, whereby one per cent of all capital expenditure on construction must be set aside for the commissioning of art work. That the PACA has convinced the Corporation of the validity and practicality of this principle — already long followed in places

such as the Netherlands, and widespread in the USA — is a notable coup.

Not surprisingly, the Chairman of the Welsh Arts Council, Mathew Prichard, was enthusiastic in this way (the Arts Council has been arguing "per cent for art" to the government for years), but to find the Chief Executive of the Development Corporation, Barry Lane, so obviously excited at yesterday's launch was even more heartening. The involvement of other bodies, such as the Welsh Sculpture Trust, looks like making the high profile of art in Cardiff something of a crusade.

Already, a number of companies, ranging from Welsh Gas to Barrett Homes, are liaising with the Cardiff Bay Arts Trust and have agreed to the "per cent for

art" proposal. Two sculptures, one for an inventive gateway at an entrance to the Bay area, are about to be commissioned and should be in place by the autumn of next year. Bureaucracies — which look, for once, as if they might be on the side of the artists — are in place. In the final reckoning, however, it is on the quality of the finished art works that this massive Cardiff initiative will be judged a success or failure. Publicly commissioned visual art in this country has had a far from auspicious record.

At yesterday's launch, Peter Palumbo quoted his predecessor, John Maynard Keynes, the first chairman of the Arts Council, as saying that "The wind which blows the artist moves him in the direction of the spirit." The wind of change in Wales appears to be blowing in a creative direction.

## LITERATURE

# One Broadway show that will run and run

Daniel Rosenthal attends a 13-hour performance of *Ulysses*, during a celebration of James Joyce in New York

You hear many strange sounds and voices walking along Broadway on a Saturday evening, but when Irish-American accents discussing "the snoot-green...scrotdumtighening sea", Hamlet, horse-racing and "prolonged provocative melon-mellonous osculation" drift onto the street, you know something really unusual is going on. Unless the Saturday happens to be June 16, because that is Bloomsday.

When James Joyce chose to set *Ulysses* on June 16, 1904, he would have been offered favourable odds against the date being celebrated 86 years later in a theatre 3,000 miles from Dublin. But at Symphony Space on the corner of Broadway and 95th Street, nothing seemed more natural: extracts from Leopold Bloom's odyssey (13 hours accommodate just a third of the book) forming the central part of *Bloomsday on Broadway IX*, an all-day celebration of *Ulysses*, Joyce and all Irish literature.

A community-sponsored arts centre, Symphony Space is co-managed by Isaiah Sheffer, an effusive and affable director and playwright who has directed all nine *Bloomsdays*. "For a few years, the *Bloomsday* bookstore on 81st Street had been holding amateur readings on June 16. When they closed, it was suggested that the tradition be carried on here," he recalls. Sheffer agreed, on condition that the event became larger, and in 1982 the *Bloomsday on Broadway* tradition was born.

Eight years on, the day has become an integral part of the theatre's 240-event programme. By April, Sheffer finds himself accosted and telephoned by Joyce enthusiasts asking, "What's in it this year?" and actors eager to know what is in it for them. Every year he has "the best Jewish actors in New York" clamouring to play Bloom. Theatrical enthusiasm for *Bloomsday* was perhaps best expressed three years ago by one amply-built actor and self-confessed trencherman, who swore, "Given the choice between a seven-course banquet and reading Joyce, I'd take Joyce every time."

But *Ulysses* was not only brought to life by professional actors. The cast also included members of the theatre's staff and some 25 members of New York's Irish media and diplomatic "mafia". They were invited to read the newspaper episode, and when Bloom visited The Freeman's Journal he was met by, among others, the editor of *TV Guide*, the Irish Consul-General and one of Dublin's representatives at the United Nations. They are, in Sheffer's words, "a bunch of people James Joyce would've enjoyed hanging out with."

WNYS, New York's public broadcasting service, agreed to broadcast all but two hours of the day. The station has carried the event since 1986, and far from driving its listeners away, *Bloomsday* is proving more and more popular. "The number of listeners increases every year and we have people phoning up to make sure that we're broadcasting as usual," Peter Whorl, WNYS's controller of programming, says. "I have no exact figures, but there will definitely be tens of thousands

listening." In previous years the event has even been relayed by satellite across America.

At 7.50am on June 16, 10 minutes before the start, no more than 40 of the theatre's 900 seats were occupied. Actors and audience alike shook off yawns and stretched in preparation for the marathon ahead. An Irish ballad played over the P.A. and the stage was flanked by blow-ups of *Ulysses* playing cards, designed by the Monaco-based artist, Rosita Fanto (Leopold and Molly Bloom are the King and Queen of Hearts, James and Nora Joyce the jokers). If the delicatessen had been offering Bloom's beloved "inner organs of beasts and fowls", the picture would have been complete.

The musicality of Joyce's writing made the reading feel like a curious mixture of concert and play, a play in which miaowing cats are given voices.

Watching the audience proved almost as absorbing as listening to the play. One couple sat with heads bowed, pen-torches held beneath their chins to help them follow every word in their own copies of the book, and only looked up to applaud at the end of each segment. Some divided their attention equally between stage and text, while others leaned back with their eyes closed and let the words flow over them, a method which enabled two elderly women to enjoy mid-morning naps. The day did not belong entirely to Joyce's bowler-hatted ad-man. A two-hour segment at noon was devoted to Samuel Beckett, in recognition of both his achievements as a writer and his close relationship with Joyce.

A non-existent subway service had kept audience numbers down all day, but at 10pm about 300 people were present to hear Bloom fall asleep and await the grand finale: the complete Molly Bloom monologue. This year's Molly was Fionnula Flannagan, an Irish actress who performed a one-woman show entitled *Joyce's Women* on stage and television. Once Sheffer had issued the last of the day's "language advisories", giving notice to those tuned to WNYS that Molly's intimate thoughts would demand listener discretion, she had the stage to herself.

For the next three hours she read every intimate, unpunctuated thought with a passion matched only by her stamina. The glass of water by her side remained untouched and she made perhaps three or four slips — none of which would have been discernible had I not had the text in front of me.

The quality of her performance almost defied belief, especially given her schedule in the preceding four days. On June 12, she left Los Angeles, where she had been directing another *Bloomsday* event, and flew to Dublin to read Joyce extracts in a benefit concert at Slane Castle on June 15. Almost immediately she took a flight back to New York, arriving just a few hours before she was due at Symphony Space.

Isaiah Sheffer described the day as a celebration of life, food, sex, love and music, and, at one in the morning, as Fionnula Flannagan's final, ecstatic "Yes" hung in the air, the thought of 30,000 New Yorkers falling asleep to the broadcast of Molly Bloom's personal eulogy felt as comforting as it did incongruous.



James Joyce: had no notion of what he started 86 years ago

## CRITIC'S CHOICE: LITERATURE

ANNA HOMER AND LAWRENCE UPTON: Homer, a poet and experimental fictioneer, performer from Los Angeles, gives her only reading in this country. Her work uses invented languages in song-form to create surprisingly familiar tales from

"other" worlds. Upton's writing is full of sharply observed, quirky everyday details. He uses a wide range of literary forms, including highly experimental narratives and dialogues. Sub-Voice, Prince of Cumberland, Albany Road, London

NW1 (081-340 8224), tomorrow, 8pm, £2.50, £1. E.A. MARKHAM: A leading literary figure, poet and editor who has the breadth of vision to tackle thorny issues. His most recent collection of poems, *Towards the End of the Century*, is full of challenging political observations, made with wit and verve. The Blue Nose Café, 78 Mountgrove Road, London N5 (071-364 3655), Tues, 7.45pm, £3 and £2.

THE LEEDS FESTIVAL: Poet Jim Burns, a leading authority on the Beat generation, is joined by poets Andy Darlington, Keith Jelinek and David Tipton for a celebration of Beat Poetry. Bishopsgate Venue, Bishopsgate, Leeds (0532 431 1230), Sat, 7.30pm, £3 (£2.50).

POEMS FROM THE FRONTLINE: Freddy Macha and

James Kwall. Macha is a poet and songwriter from Tanzania. His works have sought to promote the traditions of aural African poetry. His themes range from pan-African freedom to sexual stereotyping and famine. They are direct poems, performed with hand drums and guitar accompaniment. The Voice Box, Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), Tues, 7.30pm, £2.50 (£1.50).

ANDREA NEWMAN: A *Sense of Guilt* confirmed Newman as Britain's favourite purveyor of passionate TV dramas. This is a chance to hear her discuss the adaptation of her work for TV. A screening of the first episode from *A Bouquet of Barbed Wire* will preface the talk. Watnhead Media Centre, 1 Canons Road, Enslin (072 2764440), Tues, 6pm, £3 (£2).

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CRITIC'S CHOICE: VIDEO

A weekly selection of films recently released on video. The year refers to the date of first release or, in the case of television films, of first broadcast.

**HEATHERS** (20-20 Video, 18). Delectably sharp black farce from a new American director, Michael Lehmann, about murderous goings-on among an elite group of pretty high-school girls. With Winona Ryder, Christian Slater. 1989.

**MEMOIRS OF A SURVIVOR** (Warner, PG). Julie Christie as Doris Lessing's heroine, surviving with her fantasies in a decrepit, futuristic Britain. Director David Gladwell's ambitious feature debut, chiefly botched by the low budget and the sheer intransigence of Lessing's novel. 1989.

**PET SEMATARY** (CIC, 18). Ferocious, body-filled adaptation of Stephen King's novel about a New England newcomer (Dale Midkiff) trying to bring the dead to life. Nervous direction by Mary Lambert. Up from pop videos. 1989.

**THE RACHEL PAPERS** (Virgin, 18). Toothless version of Martin Amis's novel about teenage lust, with Dexter Fletcher (from *Caravaggio*) as a 19-year-old plunging into a passionate love affair. 1989.

**SHADOW MAKERS** (CIC, PG). The story of Oppenheimer and his scientist colleagues, perfecting the first atom bomb. Not the great film that the subject deserves, but absorbing enough. Paul Newman towers on the sidelines as the Pentagon big-shot cracking the whip. 1989.

**SPARROWS CAN'T SING** (Warner, U). One of Joan Littlewood's Theatre Royal has from Stratford East comedy-drama about a sailor's return to Slapenay. Character and incident steer close to caricature, though the ebullient spirit is bracing. 1963.

**THAT SUMMER OF WHITE ROSES** (Avalon, 15). Tom Conti trying on patience as a simple Yugoslav soul facing the realities of war. Flavourless, unbelievable period drama, with Susan George. Rod Siegel. 1990.

**YIELD TO THE NIGHT** (Warner, 15). Daria Dors plunging into serious drama as a condemned murderess (based on Ruth Ellis). Gloomy but impressive in its dogged pursuit of material far removed from the cosy British norm of the 1950s. 1966.

**BACK TO THE FUTURE PART II** (CIC, PG). With Part I only a week away from London's cinemas, the half-hearted and garbled Part II makes its video debut. With Michael J. Fox (already too old for teenage roles) and the forever frenzied Christopher Lloyd, zipping to and fro through the time spectrum. 1989.

**SEE YOU IN THE MORNING** (Guild, 15). Disappointingly heavy-handed romantic comedy from Alan J. Pakula, with Jeff Bridges as a psychiatrist torn between two marriages. 1989.

**MYSTERY TRAIN** (Palace, 15). Mocty delicious epic film from the unique, leucisack Jim Jarmusch, focused on the overnight visitors at a Memphis hotel. 1989.

GEOFF BROWN

CINEMA

# Changing choirboys into cadets

David Robinson reviews *Lord of the Flies*, *Shohei Imamura's Black Rain*, *Triumph of the Spirit*, *Windprints* and *An Innocent Man*

William Golding's novel, *Lord of the Flies*, in case anyone has forgotten, is the story of a party of English schoolboys stranded when their aircraft crashes on an uninhabited tropical island. At first they try to establish a social order. Soon, however, there are dissensions and rifts and Ralph, the rationalist leader, and his lieutenant, Piggy, find themselves alone against the breakaway "hunters", led by the violent Jack.

The tale is, of course, metaphorical. Golding called it "an attempt to trace the defects of society back to the defects of human nature". What makes it a great horror story is the spectacle of rapid degeneration into a state of brutal savagery once the fimsy restraints of social order are removed, and our perception that this is merely realistic. We have witnessed the phenomenon often enough in the past half-century of history.

Peter Brook filmed the book in 1963. The producer of that version, Lewis Allen, renewed the rights in 1983, to protect it from remakes, but then had the idea of remaking it himself.

The new *Lord of the Flies* (15, Cannon Shafesbury Avenue) updates the story to 1990 — reasonably enough, since Golding intended it as a contemporary story. This has required some fundamental changes. The children in the original came from an English public school — the paradigm of a closed society ordered by rules and rituals which could be readily adapted and perverted to savage existence. After 36 years, however, the public school society seems archaic and unfamiliar, and the film-makers chose as a modern equivalent an American military academy, whose marching chants fulfil the same function as the *Kyrie* that Golding and Brook's choirboys chanted. (In the process, the film sacrifices the piquancy that the demonic Jack is the head choirboy.)

The dialogue is modern and racy, with references to *Rambo* and *Miss Piggy*, and works quite well. A less comprehensible change is to introduce the pilot of

the crashed aeroplane, who never seems to fit into the scheme, and makes a poor substitute for the "monster" of the original novel and film.

The director, Harry Hook, revealed a special gift for directing children in his first feature film, *The Kitchen Toto*. The 24 boys here are all highly credible in their roles and the principals are well cast: solemn, earnest Ralph (Balthazar Getty), poor, blind, fat Piggy (Daniel Pipoly), and the beautiful little devil, Jack (Chris Furrh). Other important characters, though — the sensitive Simon (Badge Dale) and Jack's shadow, Roger (Gary Rule) — hardly register until it is the moment for their specific contribution to the story.

Nor does Hook succeed, as Brook did, in charting the gradual progression of social disintegration. The shifts in character seem all too abrupt and arbitrary here. Hook is better at action than at the sort of subtle reactions and character revelations that distinguished Brook's more literal adaptation.

The film, mostly shot on location in Jamaica and photographed by Martin Fuhrer, always looks good, and moments like the hunters' war dance, the killings, and the final scene, with the hunters visibly shrinking back to children, are minor *tours de force*. Crucially, though, Hook fails altogether (so did Brook) to capture the televisual quality of the speared and fly-blown pig's head which gave the book its bite.

Since there is already a Hollywood film called *Black Rain* in circulation, the distributors of the distinguished Japanese film of the same name have been obliged to release it, awkwardly titled as *Shohei Imamura's Black Rain* (PG, Renoir).

In more than four decades of films about Hiroshima, few have dealt in realistic terms with the effect upon individuals divorced from politics and national guilt. Imamura's film is an adaptation of a famous novel by Masuji Iwano, which traces in intimate detail, the fortunes of a rural family who simply happened to be passing by Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. This was moreover filmed in the



On course for survival: Balthazar Getty (right) as the solemn Ralph, with Badge Dale (left) as Simon in the 1990 version of *Lord of the Flies*

They witness the horrors but escape alive, though the daughter has been soaked with the radioactive black rain that followed the bomb.

Her subsequent decline into radiation sickness is seen against the background of rural life and tradition, and the importance of marriage, which is precluded by her plight.

There are no dramatics or sensationalism — only meticulous observation of daily life and ritual, of the characters, of the joys and beauties of this rural world, as well as the tragedies of our time.

I can recall no American feature film before Robert M. Young's *Triumph of the Spirit* (15, Mezzanine, Leicester Square) that has had the courage to stage a story set in the Nazi extermination camps. This was moreover filmed in the

actual site of Auschwitz-Birkenau and tells the true story of Salomo Arouch, the Balkan middleweight boxing champion, who was deported there with his family and fiancée. Salomo was protected and made to fight for the entertainment of a camp commandant with a taste for sport.

Young treats the subject with discretion, yet there is still a sense of unease at the recreation of the worst horrors. There is also a feeling that the moral issues of enforced collaboration are left unexplored. The film is at its best in treating the intimate, personal moments and the awful banalities of day-to-day existence. Willem Defoe again shows himself an actor of fine intelligence.

As part of a two-week Zabalaza Festival of film, music, theatre and art to celebrate the liberation of South African culture, the ICA is presenting *Windprints*. This is the British-financed first feature of South African David Wicht.

The film is apparently based on real events. A series of killings among black workers on sheep farms in the early Eighties was attributed to a Nama renegade, who inspired mythical awe in the communities he terrorised.

Wicht's protagonist, clearly an autobiographical figure, is an Afrikaners television cameraman (Sean Bean), assigned to make a documentary about the mythical killer, Nadiep. Encounters with blacks, Afrikaners and the cynical British journalist (John Hurt) working alongside him bring home the unfathomable complexities of this troubled society.

The story is effectively told, but the elusive, enigmatic finale prob-

ably reflects the personal uncertainties of Wicht and his screen *alter ego*.

Peter Yates remains one of the best directors of action pictures, but he cannot overcome the shortcomings of Larry Brothers' script for *An Innocent Man* (18, Odeon West End). The plot is in essence simple and classic. Tom Selleck, framed by two corrupt policemen, serves a sentence in a jail of horrifically brutalising atmosphere. Released, with the aid of his loyal wife, he clears his name and wreaks revenge.

The script, though, turns out to be an indecisive and undigested hodge-podge of several story conventions: police corruption, prison brutality, revenge melodrama — watchable more on the level of television serials than a Peter Yates movie.

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## Return to the savages

Peter Guttridge  
talks to 31-year-old  
Harry Hook about  
his latest film,  
*Lord of the Flies*

Remaking a respected  
adaptation of a  
modern Eng. Lit. classic  
is not perhaps the wisest career  
move for a director making  
only his second feature film.  
But the reputation of the  
Kenyan-born Harry Hook, a  
31-year-old National Film  
School graduate who made an  
auspicious film debut with *The Kitchen Toto*, has not suffered  
from his version of William  
Golding's novel *Lord of the Flies*.

Golding's story was filmed  
by Peter Brook in a reverential  
black and white version at  
most 30 years ago. Hook's  
version has divided critical  
response in America, where  
the book is a set-text in  
schools.

"When a novel is in the  
public domain, as it were, then  
you can't win," Hook says.  
"Everyone has ideas about  
how *Lord of the Flies* should  
be done. And film is such an  
ephemeral thing that if critics  
want to slate you they will  
often pick up on the literal  
things — which are actually  
irrelevant."

Hook's Americanisation of  
the book was perhaps in-  
evitable if the film was to  
succeed in the world market.  
Especially as *Lord of the Flies*  
is difficult to "position". Is it a  
children's film or an adult's?  
Because of the depiction of the  
descent into savagery, Peter  
Brook's version was, rather  
oddly, deemed unsuitable for  
viewing by children the age of  
the actors who appeared in it.  
Some Americans find the

story unpalatable. Although  
the book and the realities are  
well known — a recent gang  
rape in Central Park by youths  
was dubbed "the *Lord of the Flies* rape" — many Americans  
still cling to a rosy view of  
childhood, Hook says.

He goes on: "Although you  
get odd films like *River's Edge*,  
this is certainly the darkest  
film I've seen about child-  
hood. You need only look at  
the child actors that are avail-  
able to see what kind of films  
people want to see. That is  
why I preferred to cast non-  
actors for my film."

Hook was drawn to the idea  
of filming the book because he  
liked its elemental imagery  
and layers of meaning. He is  
unrepentant about his film's



Harry Hook on the set

departures from the book. "A  
film version of a book is never  
going to be the same. And  
inevitably it will always dis-  
appoint some people. We were  
very careful and wrestled with  
script changes."

"When Sam Spiegel first  
bought the film rights he had  
hundreds of scripts done.  
Peter Shaffer did one I recall.  
And they had all sorts of  
strange endings. Peter Brook  
took it back to the original. We  
have made some bold depar-  
tures but I think we are true to  
the spirit of the book."

What is lost in the film  
version is the symbolism  
surrounding the eponymous  
*Lord of the Flies*. Much of that  
is conveyed in the novel by  
interior dialogue. "I would  
have retitled the film if I could  
have come up with a better  
one," Hook says cheerfully.

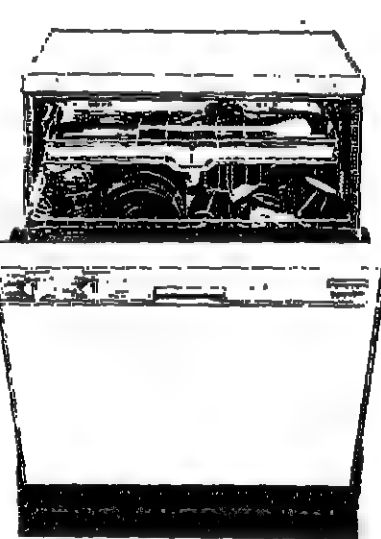
"In the book, the pig's head  
talks to Simon inside his own  
brain. We did try to shoot the  
scene doing voice-overs, but it  
looked ridiculous, like a cheap  
horror movie."

Hook finished the film last  
November. Since then he has  
been working on a project  
which will take him back to  
Africa. "It is a modern African  
subject, although it is a fable  
that could happen anywhere."

For two years Hook had  
assumed that his next film  
would be about Sir Richard  
Burton. He spent that time  
doing research, only to be  
pipped at the post by Bob  
Rafelson's disappointing  
*Mountains of the Moon*. "You  
run that risk with historical  
subjects," he notes.

"I know Sir Richard  
Attenborough was also in-  
terested in doing something.  
There were some good things  
in Rafelson's film but I don't  
think it was well done — the  
book it came from is not the  
best source. I would still like  
to make a film about Burton.  
Perhaps in a few years I'll do  
the remake."

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9.00 News and weather followed by Lovat Road. Continuing the profile of the Preston road's residents (r) 9.30 Stateline. News and weather. Features Paul Murray from Louisiana who still has a clean licence after driving for 70 years (r) 9.35 Canoe. White water action (r) 10.00 News and weather followed by The Raccoons (r) Playdays from Lanuwchlyn, North Wales (r) 10.50 Stop! and Tidyup (r)  
10.55 Five to Eleven. Paul Edwards, SJ, talks about Gerard Manley Hopkins's Jesuit career.  
11.00 News and weather followed by Hudson and Halls. More culinary delights from the camp koo chefs. Singer Vince Hill is today's guest (r) 11.30 Boswell's Wildlife Safari to Mexico. First of a six-part zoological exploration (r) 11.55 Northern Lights. Frank Nelson - the entertaining artisan (r) 12.00 News and weather followed by Dallas (r). (CeeFax) 12.50 Reviving Antiques. How to fix cracks in wood 12.55 Regional News and weather  
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Mayton. Weather 1.30 Neighbours. More soap from Melbourne's Ramsay Street. (CeeFax)  
1.50 Wimbledon 90. Harry Carpenter introduces more live coverage from the All England Club  
4.10 Happy Families (r) 4.25 Laurel and Hardy. Cartoon version (r) 4.30 Around the World With Willy Fog (r)  
5.00 Newsround 5.10 Movie It.  
However, the speed snooker, netball and basketball are all featured in this new series of the show about sport and leisure for children. (CeeFax)  
6.55 Neighbours (r). (CeeFax). Northern Ireland: Sportsweek 5.40 Inside Ulster

## BBC 2

6.45 Open University: Social Integration - Children's Television. Ends at 7.10  
8.00 News 8.15 Westminster  
9.00 Daytime on Two young people who smoke are asked why they do it 9.25 Measuring odd shapes 9.40 Tutorial topics 10.00 Fighting drug abuse  
10.10 Wimbledon 90. Harry Carpenter introduces action from yesterday's play at Wimbledon  
11.00 Daytime on Two continues with the German film, *Die Guenstigen* 11.20 Words into Actions: an exploration of the Christian faith 11.40 Sex education 12.00 Buddy: episode four of the drama starring Roger Daltrey 12.25 Third World child slavery 12.50 Science for nine to 11-year-olds 1.20 Mr Gemm 1.40 Music time  
2.00 News and weather followed by Watch. Britain's sea birds (r)  
2.15 Wimbledon 90. Dan Maskell and Virginia Wade present and analyse the fourth day's play  
3.00 News and weather followed by Westminster Live 3.50 News, regional news and weather  
4.00 Wimbledon 90. Further coverage. (CeeFax)  
8.00 City Lights. Scottish comedy series about Willie Melvin, a bank clerk with frustrated literary ambitions (r). (CeeFax). Wales: Gardening Together  
8.30 On the Line. More punchy reports on sporting matters. As the cricket establishment looks on, the BBC's TV to discuss neutral umpires for Test

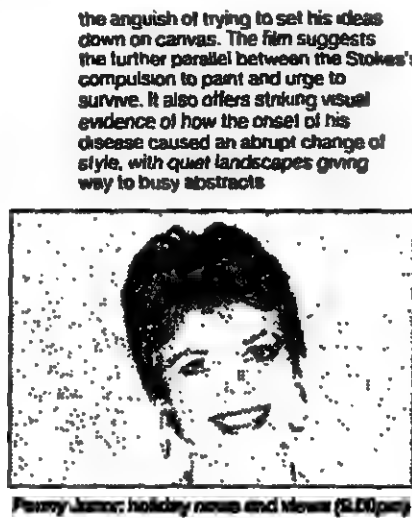
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey Weather  
6.30 Regional News and Magazines. Northern Ireland. Neighbours  
7.00 Top of the Pops  
7.30 EastEnders. (CeeFax)  
8.00 Life On One.  
As *Tomorrow's World* takes a summer break, its slot is filled by another popular science magazine with a similarly jolly tone. The choice of Sarah Greene and Simon Mayo as hosts suggests that the show is aimed at a young audience, an impression confirmed by one of tonight's items on the dangers of passive smoking. In a vox pop conducted in Birmingham on whether smoking should be banned in public places hardly anyone looks over 25. The early signs are that the show will be strong not only on health but pollution issues and not be afraid to make waves. A Conservative party political broadcast on the environment is demolished with all the venom of an item in *Springwatch* and Brian Cox is put firmly in the dock for running the beaches of the north-east. Then, the crucial item in an item on baldness, which questions the effectiveness of most cures  
8.30 Waiting for God.  
Casting around for subjects, and having nearly found a teenage, young man and his mother, sitcom writers are increasingly turning to senior citizens. *Waiting for God* is set in a retirement home in Bourneville, in which only one resident has much of a speaking part. She is Dana, a formerly cynical spinster played by Stephanie Cole. She is joined by Tom (Graham Crowden), an amiable fantasist and natural troublemaker who has been placed in the home by a relieved son and daughter-in-law. His present to the money-conscious management is the quality of the food provided the first episode with its modicum of plot.

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Cynical Stephanie Cole's Dana (8.30pm)

Michael McKean's script seems uncertain whether to confront the bleakness of a situation in which old people are waiting to die or exuding it with easy laughs. Crowden and Cole are accomplished comedy actors but their characters cannot escape that the show's inability to shed a definite mood is its major flaw. *Waiting for God* is written by and starring Victoria Wood (r). (CeeFax)  
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. Regional news and weather  
9.30 Victoria Wood: Over to Pam. Another helping of observant comedy directed by and starring Victoria Wood (r). (CeeFax)  
10.00 Today at Wimbledon. Highlights  
11.00 The Kom-Tid Man. The last in the present series following the Nordic explorer Thor Heyerdahl as he looks back over his many adventures and discoveries  
11.25 Film: *Classified Love* (1989) starring Michael McKean, Stephanie Cole and Dana McKean. Amusing comedy that looks on the subject down to any busy office worker's heart. Three young colleagues working in an ad agency find that their time for socialising is becoming increasingly limited. They resolve to get round this by using their copywriting skills to advertise themselves in small ads columns. Very poignant, it is a 1980s. Directed by Don Taylor  
12.55am Weather



Penny Jagger: holiday news and views (8.00pm)

10.30 Newsnight presented by Donald McCormick. The latest national and international news including extended coverage of one of the main stories of the day.  
11.15 Facing Up to AIDS: Who's Safe Now? How high is the risk of HIV infection in heterosexual sex?  
11.45 Building Signs. Nigel Coates admires Chelsea FC's East Stand (r)  
11.55 Weather. Weekend Outlook  
12.00am News and weather - growing cold. Ends at 12.30

## ITV LONDON

8.00 TV-am  
9.25 Chain Letters. Word-building quiz game 9.55 Thames News and weather  
10.00 Out of This World. The comic adventures of Ewa, a half-alien teenager  
10.30 This Morning. Film magazine presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley  
12.05 The Fiddlers. For the young (r) 12.25 Home and Away. Drama with the Fiddlers and the five Foster children 12.55 Thames News and weather  
1.00 News at One with John Sucher.  
1.20 Daytime Guide. The Green Life Guide. Daily Badow and Aislinn Macdonald host the programme which looks at environmental issues. Fashion students put their imagination to work creating low-cost recycled garments, and there is a report on how Britain's polluted waters are being cleaned up 1.50 A Country Practice. Australian medical drama set in a rural town  
2.20 TV Weekly. Anne Diamond with the latest behind-the-scenes news and gossip from favourite ITV and Channel 4 programmes  
2.50 Connections. Lateral thinking game show presented by Simon Packer 3.15 News headlines 3.20 Thames News and weather 3.25 Sons and Daughters. Australian family drama series  
3.55 The Raggy Dolls 4.10 Disney's

## CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Art of Landscape. Breathing new life into the natural beauty set to music  
6.20 Business Daily  
6.30 The Channel 4 Daily  
12.00 The Parliament Programme  
12.30 Business Daily. Business and financial news service  
1.00 Sesame Street. Learning the fun way for younger viewers  
2.00 Time To Talk. Dame Eva Burrows, general and world leader of the Salvation Army, talks to Lesley Judd about her work and the kind of life she is required to have (r) 2.15 Film: *Carabiah* (1948, b/w) starring Tony Martin, Yvonne De Carlo and Peter Lorne. Musical remake of the pre-war Hollywood classic. *Algers*, which in turn was based on the French classic *Pepé le Moko*. The leader of a band of thieves is being sought by the police. Very poignant, it is a 1930s. Directed by Jean Renoir  
4.05 Film: *Crime Does Not Pay* (1934, b/w). An Oscar-nominated drama about the murder of a crime-busting mayor, starring Stanley Ridges and directed by Harold S. Bucquet  
4.30 Fifteen-to-One. Fast-moving general news coverage presented by William G. Stewart  
5.00 The Horse in Sport. Part two - eventing. A look at three competitors as they prepare for Badminton and the world championships. The programme also includes interviews with Colonel Frank Weston, Tony Todd and Bruce Davidson about the excitement and fears surrounding the sport (r)

## Duck Tales (r)

4.40 Henry's Leg. Courtney Roper-Knight stars as Henry Hogg, an 11-year-old who is collecting the junk of other people throw away. Henry's latest discovery, a dummy's leg, leads him into unusual adventures (r)  
5.10 Rockabusters. General knowledge quiz for teenagers  
5.40 News with Fiona Armstrong  
6.00 Home and Away (r)  
6.30 Thames News and weather  
7.00 Emmerdale. Soap set in the farming community of Beckindale in Yorkshire. (CeeFax)  
7.30 Sporting Triangles. Sporting quiz presented by Andy Craig. Regular team captains Andy Gray, Emyr Hughes and Jimmy Greaves are joined by javelin ace Fabian Whitbread, rugby league's Jonathan Davies and cricketer Phil Neale respectively  
8.00 The Bill. Close to Home. Realistic police series. WPC Auckland and Sgt Oyer find their own problems influencing their judgement when they investigate an accident involving a small boy and begin to wonder whether he may be a victim of child abuse (r)  
8.30 After Henry. Simon Brett's gently perceptive comedy with Prunella Scales as a widow who shares a house with her bossy mother (the splendid Joan Sanderson) and teenage daughter (r)  
9.00 This Week's Sexiest - A Trail of Terror. A special edition edition investigating the Czechoslovakian police who have caused

6.00 Things To Come. A satirical look at the things future generations may take for granted. Some of the items are more fantasy, while some could become reality. Presented by Malcolm Bennett and Penny Southgate  
6.30 Kate & Allie. A comic look at single-parent life, starring Susan Saint James and Jane Curtin (r)  
7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Zanele Badenhorst  
7.50 Comment followed by Weather  
8.00 Loads More Muck and Magic. Horticultural tips for the environmental gardener. The programme includes a look at the dangers of some garden pesticides, with tips on the organic research centre at Newbury and how to make cloches. Presented by Rebecca Pow, Alan Gair and Bob Sherman. (CeeFax)  
8.30 My Two Dads. Taped sitcom about the problems of parenthood. Due to a strange twist of fate, two men find themselves the parents of a 13-year-old girl.  
9.00 Film: *Lamb* (1985).  
Bernard MacLaverty's story, which he adapted from his novel, could easily have collapsed into pathos or sentimentality but thanks to his uncompromising screenplay and unobtrusively sensitive handling from the director, Colin Gregg, it does neither. Michael Lamb (Liam Neeson) is a young priest who teaches at a forbidding reformatory school for juvenile boys on the west coast of Ireland. He takes under his wing the 10-year-old Owen (Hugh O'Connor), an epileptic who becomes an easy victim of the harsh regime. Lamb is eventually pushed into the desperate remedy of escaping with the boy to London where they pose as father and son, only to find that their freedom is illusory. The central relationship between the father figure and his adopted child is beautifully played by Neeson and the



Liam Neeson and Hugh O'Connor (8.00pm)

boy O'Connor. It is touching at times and not without humour but underscored with a grim fatalism which cannot allow them to walk off hand in hand into the sunset  
11.05 Faces of War - A Time for Remembrance. Series of award-winning documentaries. Peter Barry's film asks how long we can continue to commemorate the world wars. The first world war changed our attitude to remembrance due to the enormous number of casualties. Veterans give their opinion of what it meant to be there and why their bravery should not be forgotten (r)  
12.05am Film: *Swann in Love* (1983) starring Jeremy Irons, Ornella Muti and Alain Delon. A story of the passionate and obsessive love a rich Jewish artist has for a demimonde. Consumed by jealousy, he pursues her, constantly questioning her about possible rivals. Excellent performances, particularly from Irons. Directed by Claude Chabrol. A beautiful and rewarding film. Directed by Volker Schlöndorff. Ends at 2.05

## RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW  
6.00am Johnnie Walker 6.30am Simon Stuart 7.30am Simon Stuart 12.30pm Newsweek 12.45 Gary Davies  
1.00pm News 1.30pm News 2.00pm News 2.30pm News 3.00pm News 3.30pm News 4.00pm News 4.30pm News 5.00pm News 5.30pm News 6.00pm News 6.30pm News 7.00pm News 7.30pm News 8.00pm News 8.30pm News 9.00pm News 9.30pm News 10.00pm News 10.30pm News 11.00pm News 11.30pm News 12.00pm News 12.30pm News 1.00am News 1.30am News 1.50am News 2.00am News 2.30am News 3.00am News 3.30am News 4.00am News 4.30am News 5.00am News 5.30am News 6.00am News 6.30am News 7.00pm News 7.30pm News 8.00pm News 8.30pm News 9.00pm News 9.30pm News 10.00pm News 10.30pm News 11.00pm News 11.30pm News 12.00pm News 12.30pm News 1.00am News 1.30am News 1.50am News 2.00am News 2.30am News 3.00am News 3.30am News 4.00am News 4.30am News 5.00am News 5.30am News 6.00am News 6.30am News 7.00pm News 7.30pm News 8.00pm News 8.30pm News 9.00pm News 9.30pm News 10.00pm News 10.30pm News 11.00pm News 11.30pm News 12.00pm News 12.30pm News 1.00am News 1.30am News 1.50am News 2.00am News 2.30am News 3.00am News 3.30am News 4.00am 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● BUSINESS AND FINANCE 23-31  
● LAW 29  
● SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 33-36  
● SPORT 38-44

# BUSINESS

THURSDAY JUNE 28 1990

Executive Editor  
David Brewerton

## Burton warning as sales slump

BURTON Group, the department store and fashion retailer that includes Debenhams, Top Shop and Principles, saw its shares fall 15p to 149p when it said sales had deteriorated in recent weeks. The company said that like for like sales in the last seven weeks were substantially down on last year.

Burton's warning is the second this month from a fashion retailer. On the same day that Goldsmiths, owner of the Weymouths boutiques, went into receivership, Etam, which sells clothes to the under 25s, gave a warning that this year's profits would be lower than last year.

Burton's group's property development business has been causing some concern because of falling prices.

John Richards, retail analyst at County Nat West, has cut his pre-tax profit forecast for the current year from £200 million to £175 million. Nick Hawkins at Kleinwort Benson has cut his profit forecast from £195 million to £160 million. Last year Burton made pre-tax profits of £222 million. It made pre-tax profits of £116.3 million in the first half.

### Profits plunge

Sharp profit falls were reported by three householders. Crest Nicholson plunged to a loss of £572,000 in the half-year to end-April against profits of £20.2 million. But the dividend was held at 3p per share. Berkeley Group saw profits shrink from £22.1 million to £200,000 in the year to April 30. But the group held its final dividend, making an unchanged total of 4.5p. Fairbairn passed its final dividend for the year to March 31, paying 1.25p (5p). Profits fell from £13 million to £2.3 million. *Times, page 25*

### Hogg tops £10m

Hogg Robinson, the travel agency and freight group, more than doubled pre-tax profits from £5 million to £10.4 million in the year to end March. The dividend has been raised by 12.8p to 5.3p out of earnings up from 4.28p to 9.07p per share. *Times, page 25*

### THE ROUND

US dollar 1.7430 (+0.0055)  
W German mark 2.9004 (-0.0012)  
Exchange index 91.3 (-0.2)

### STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1902.6 (-24.0)  
FT-SE 100 2373.5 (-26.3)  
New York Dow Jones 2856.95 (+14.80)  
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 32312.75 (+740.98)  
Closing Prices ... Page 31  
Major indices and major changes Page 29

### INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 15%  
3-month interbank 14 1/2-14 3/4%  
3-month eligible bills 14 1/2-14 3/4%  
US: Prime Rate 10 1/2%  
3-month Treasury Bills 7 7/8-7 7/8%  
30-year bonds 102 1/2-102 3/4%

### CURRENCIES

London: New York: £: \$1.7430 £: DM1.6536  
E: DM2.9004 E: SfrF1.4077  
E: FF2.4518 E: FF5.5880  
E: Yen154.36 E: Yen154.36  
E: Index 91.3 E: Index 91.3  
ECU 50.71107 SDR 50.75294  
E: ECU1.40625 E: SDR1.31640

### GOLD

London Fixing: AM \$350.30 pm \$350.65  
close \$349.75-350.25 (C200 50-201.00)  
Comex: \$350.00-350.50

### NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Aug) ... \$15.90 bbl (\$16.05)  
Dentice latest trading price

### FOURIST RATES

Bank	Rate	Bank	Rate
Australia S	2.345	Bank	2.100
Austria S	2.345	Bank	2.100
Belgium F	62.45	Bank	58.45
Canada S	1.154	Bank	1.084
Denmark D	7.15	Bank	6.75
France F	16.20	Bank	15.20
Germany D	3.02	Bank	2.94
Greece Dr	289.75	Bank	273.75
Hong Kong S	1.132	Bank	1.082
Ireland P	1.132	Bank	1.082
Italy Lira	2215	Bank	207
Japan Yen	233	Bank	215
Netherlands Gld	3.375	Bank	3.185
Norway Kr	11.67	Bank	10.97
Portugal Esc	200.48	Bank	190.48
Spain Ptas	165.50	Bank	153.50
Sweden Kr	10.92	Bank	10.32
Switzerland F	2.555	Bank	2.395
Taiwan NTD	4800	Bank	4430
UK £	24.25	Bank	22.25
USA \$	24.25	Bank	22.25

Rates for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC  
Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.  
Parity Price Index: 126.2 (May)

## Mecca agrees Rank bid after Guthrie illness

By DAVID BREWERTON

OPPOSITION from Mecca Leisure Group to the £525 million takeover bid from Rank Organisation has collapsed as a result of the illness of Michael Guthrie, Mecca's chairman and chief executive.

Mr Guthrie unexpectedly had to undergo surgery for a heart condition last Thursday, but his illness was kept from his advisers who were working at the weekend on the defence document.

News of the Mecca board's acquiescence to the all-share bid was brought to Rank by Sir Ernest Sharp, the non-executive director, who chaired a board meeting on Tuesday evening. No meetings have taken place between the two sides.

It is understood that Mr Guthrie backs the decision, after being advised by doctors that a period of complete rest would be needed to effect a full recovery from the operation. "He should make a full recovery," a company spokesman said, "but under the circumstances it was thought in the best interest of shareholders, in the short term, to recommend Rank's offer".

The sudden illness of Mr Guthrie came in the same week that his original partner in the buyout of the company from Grand Metropolitan, Jeremy Long, left the board. The decision to recommend

the Rank bid was taken not only because Mr Guthrie was needed to head any continuing fight for independence, but also because he would have filled a crucial role in the group's recovery programme.

In the wake of the acquisition of the larger leisure group Pleasureama, Mecca was faced with "unacceptably high" debts of some £450 million, and a programme of asset sales to reduce the debt has been set in train.

In a statement recommending acceptance of Rank, Mecca said it has so far not been possible, due to the prevailing unfavourable market conditions for asset sales, to achieve acceptable prices for the disposals. Given the difficulty of realising reasonable prices in forced sale conditions, Mecca has decided that it needs the shelter of a parent company.

Michael Gifford, chief executive of Rank, said although he was delighted that Mecca was recommending acceptance, "it is not over yet. There is the little matter of the Office of Fair Trading to be addressed". The OFT has yet to decide on whether to refer the bid to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, and Mecca had been planning to campaign for a reference on the grounds of concentration of ownership in bingo clubs and British holidays. This campaign will now be thrown into reverse, as both sides will

strive to demonstrate there are no significant monopoly considerations.

Mr Gifford said he did not see a case to answer in holidays, but admitted there would be greater concentration of ownership in bingo clubs. Rank would prefer to negotiate with the OFT on possible disposals, especially in London, than to run the course of a full enquiry.

He said that Mecca had been unable to achieve good value for its shareholders in the disposals, but Rank was offering good value for the whole company.

Mecca insisted it still regarded the timing of Rank's offers as opportunistic, and Mr Gifford agreed that the timing was right from his group's point of view. He said, however, that he was "very sad" to hear of Mr Guthrie's illness.

One question unanswered last night was the position of Mecca's new finance director, Bob Nellist, who arrived only a month ago on a three-year contract. Mr Gifford said that Rank will "treat people in the proper way" and added that no discussions had been held with the Mecca management about their futures.

In the market, Mecca shares added 4 1/2p to 88 1/2p, while Rank slipped 3p to 86 1/2p, valuing each Mecca at a little over 93p.

Comment, page 25

## Brittan orders Sabena trio to fix new terms

FROM PETER GUILFORD IN BRUSSELS

BRITISH Airways, Sabena and KLM were ordered yesterday to renegotiate the terms of their joint venture, Sabena World Airways, with the European Commission.

Brussels fears that in its present shape the link would allow three of Europe's biggest airlines to keep smaller competitors out of the market before EC measures deregulating air traffic have taken a firm hold.

Yesterday, Sir Leon Brittan, the EC competition commissioner, stressed that he wanted SWA to be modified, not necessarily blocked.

"SWA has many potential benefits for consumers and airlines, and I welcome the concept, which fits clearly with the construction of the new European market," he said.

Asked whether he believed that Lord King, chairman of BA, would agree to alter the terms of the venture, Sir Leon said: "I have been constructive and I would hope that others will approach it in a similar spirit."

BA said that it was happy to accept the invitation by Sir Leon to negotiate and expected an agreement to be reached eventually.

Sir Leon's views have been conveyed to the three airlines in a "statement of objections", giving them eight weeks to reply before the commission finally decides for or against SWA. He will consult a committee of national anti-trust experts, and has promised to give high priority to his final decision. "The commission is



Brittan: seeking changes

anxious that uncertainties should not be prolonged," he said. His advisers later said that they feared that small carriers would be denied "slots" for takeoffs and landings at Brussels airport.

An official said: "In this crucial pre-liberalisation phase, there is a danger that airport space and airspace could be gobbled up by airlines whose monopoly rights are at present protected by their governments."

The three partners plan to use Brussels as a hub through which to increase air traffic across Europe between less well-served destinations.

Sir Leon's letter to the airlines also questions SWA's share distribution, in which Sabena holds 60 per cent while BA and KLM control 20 per cent each. Asked whether he considered three airlines too many, Sir Leon said "the matter will be gone into, but we will approach it with an open mind". His prime task, he said, was to check that the link-up did not violate the

EC's ban on illegal cartels, although an official added that "we will be asking whether three airlines need to be there".

A spokesman for BA defended the venture, arguing that the airlines needed to act together, as their individual rights to offer a wide range of flights between foreign cities were severely restricted. The commission said it will take this argument on board.

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines said that the commission's objection to the alliance contained inconsistencies. The carrier could not understand the commission's opinion about the venture reducing competition, saying that other carriers would be free to compete with the venture.

BA and KLM were to take a 20 per cent stake each in SWA, with the Belgian government owning the rest.

"We wanted to make a Eurohub out of Brussels airport so that it would become a nucleus of inter-European routes, allowing the business passenger to go to a meeting somewhere in Europe and come back from it within one day," said KLM.

"There is nobody offering such a Eurohub at the moment, so we cannot reduce competition. Also, every other airline could also set up a Eurohub, and that's free competition."

"At the moment, a return trip from north Sweden to the north of Spain could take three days," KLM added.

The EC's decision to liberalise the European aviation market by 1992 was the very reason for airlines to seek alliances, it said.

## Oslo keen to link currency but spurs EC membership

## Krone may tie the knot with ERM

By COLIN NARBROUGH ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

NORWAY wants to benefit from quickening EC integration by hitching the oil-backed krone to the European exchange-rate mechanism as early as next year.

But the Norwegians' apparent haste for some form of associate membership of the European Monetary System does not signal a retreat from its 1972 vote against EC membership. It still wants to avoid participation in EC decision-making bodies.

Oslo's readiness to submit itself to the counter-inflationary discipline of the ERM provides a stark contrast to the British government.

Financial markets have been encouraged by senior ministers to expect early sterling entry to the ERM, with late this year or early next widely perceived as the moment for joining, probably with

a wide, 6 per cent fluctuation band. Any political or economic hiccup that might delay sterling's entry could, however, mean that the krone could tie the knot with the ERM before the pound. Irrespective of who is first past the post, the Norwegians are ready to adopt the tighter 2.25 per cent parity band, having shadowed the EMS currencies closely for the past year.

Arne Skauge, the pro-EC Norwegian finance minister, said yesterday that he believed a "limited association" with the EMS could be concluded next year. He had just returned from meetings in Brussels with Henning Christopherson and Sir Leon Brittan, the European commissioners. Although the EMS has no associate members yet, a number of non-member countries have tracked its anchor currency, the mark. The spokesman for the commission made clear that it would be looking at the Norwegian approach positively, with a view to

encouraging the spread of stability-oriented policies to non-EC countries.

Trold Reinertsen, state secretary at the Norwegian finance ministry, said Brussels had indicated that it was prepared to discuss the form of associate membership at the EC summit in December. But he said Oslo foresees the krone becoming a normal member of the ERM. With annual inflation running at 3.9 per cent and its exchange rate fluctuating much less than the 2.25 per cent band allowed for EMS units, Norway would have no need of a transitional period after joining.

Asked whether a Norwegian move might increase pressure on neighbouring Sweden to follow suit, Mr Reinertsen said that Oslo had already informed Stockholm of its intentions. But a Norwegian precedent for associate membership is likely to pave the way for several other countries, foremost among which would be Austria and Switzerland.

## Disasters lead to notice of loss

ALISTAIR GRANT



Tougher times expected for Lloyd's of London: (from left) Robin Elliot, David Robertson, Alan Lord, Murray Lawrence, Derek Wills and Michael Last announcing the results yesterday and giving warning of a 1989 loss

## Lloyd's of London profits fall to £509m

By ANGELA MACKAY

THE Lloyd's of London insurance market announced a lower pre-tax profit available to members of £509.16 million from £649.46 million for the 1987 year of account. Tougher times are expected, culminating in the first loss in 24 years in 1989.

Murray Lawrence, Lloyd's chairman, said the 1987 results were "reasonable". Aviation and motor produced "impressive profits" and marine "a return comparable with 1986". The underwriting result for the non-marine market, however, was disappointing because of the continuing need to increase reserves for old years on the liability account.

Mr Lawrence said 1988 would be profitable, but 1989 was likely to show an overall loss because of "an unusual number of major claims which were particularly damaging since the disasters occurred at a time of keenly competitive premium rates". These include Hurricane Hugo and the San Francisco earthquake.

In the year to July, Mr Lawrence said claims would reach \$18 billion, which should hit 1991 results. He said expectations of falling profits would see 1,200 Lloyd's names leave the market this year, of a total 2,300 names in 1989. Lloyd's predicted about 1,000 new members next year, compared with 300 newcomers last year.

The number of open years at end-1989 fell from 115 to 92, but agents said syndicates would have trouble closing some of these years, particularly because of the indefinite level of eventual liabilities in relation to asbestos property damage and pollution.

"We continue to be dogged by the long tail of US liability business," Mr Lawrence said.

This led to heavy cash calls on members of syndicates such as Outhwaite and about \$911.9 million has been retained in 1989 against claims.

Expectations of a clash between agents for the Outhwaite syndicate and the Lloyd's executive were unfulfilled yesterday at the annual meeting.

John Donner told Mr Lawrence he was considering telling his names not to pay their cash calls. But Mr Lawrence said they were obliged to do so under Lloyd's by-laws.

## Tesco superstores for sale at £140m

By MATTHEW BOND

LAND & Property Trust, the private property company run by Berish Berger, is offering overseas investors most of the 17 Tesco superstores it bought in November for £140 million.

Goldman Sachs, the investment bank, and Debenhams Tewson & Chinnocks, the property agent, are circulating particulars to potential buyers, with details of a portfolio of 13 stores, including the biggest store acquired by Land, the 108,000 sq ft superstore at Brent, northwest London.

The asking price for the portfolio is £155 million, which would give Land a profit of £15 million, before interest, and leave the company with four superstores. Last November, Land said the Tesco stores had been bought as an investment. Under the terms of the sale and leaseback deal, Land was to pay for the portfolio in two equal stages - £70 million in January and £70 million in April.

Yesterday, a spokesman for Mr Berger said the second instalment had not yet been paid, although all the finance was in place. He said Land had planned to sell only a few of the stores, despite the particulars which offer the portfolio as a whole. A spokeswoman for Tesco said the

second payment was expected at the end of this week, after Land had requested a postponement. Both firms expressed confidence that completion would go ahead. The first payment completed the sale of the four biggest superstores in the portfolio, with the second payment covering the remaining 13. The portfolio being offered for sale by Goldman Sachs and DTC includes all four properties from the first transaction and nine covered by the second payment.

Tesco occupies the 13 stores in the portfolio on new 30-year leases. The combined annual rent for the stores is £8.64 million. At the asking price of £155 million, that would show a purchaser an initial yield of 5.3 per cent. The stores cover 120 acres of land.

Although no details were released at the time of last year's deal, there were signs that Land had won an informal auction for the portfolio, giving it an initial yield of about 8 per cent. Tesco said the price would give it a property profit of £50 million.

Mr Berger bought the Tesco portfolio after he failed to buy London Shop, which was taken over by Peel Holdings for £305 million.

## Ex-chief of Shearson gets \$10m

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN LOS ANGELES

PETER Cohen, the former chairman of Shearson Lehman Hutton, the second largest stockbroker on Wall Street, has agreed a \$10 million exit package following his abrupt departure five months ago.

Shearson says most of the payment to Mr Cohen, who was chairman and chief executive for much of the Eighties, is represented by shares in Shearson and American Express, its parent.

Mr Cohen's severance pay of \$2.6 million represents about a month for every year he was with the firm. Officials familiar with the negotiations say that it is effectively cancelled out by money he borrowed from the firm to buy Shearson shares. As part of the deal, Mr Cohen, aged 43, will remain a consultant until next March and on the payroll for a further 17 months.

In a statement, Shearson said it viewed the settlement as fair and equitable. But Wall Street sources say that American Express board members blame Mr Cohen for some ill-starred and ambitious takeover attempts in the late Eighties, among them Lehman Brothers.

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## Rothmans lifts dividend by a quarter as profits rise 24%

By Graham Sargeant, Financial Editor

ROTHMANS International, the tobacco and luxury goods group, is raising the dividend on its B shares by a quarter to 15.4p a share on the back of sharp rises in profits from both its main businesses.

Pre-tax profits increased by 24 per cent to £406 million in the year to end March and earnings per share were up 23 per cent to 64.4p.

Tobacco subsidiaries in Britain, continental Europe and North America boosted their operating profits from £265 million to £321 million on sales up from £1.48 billion to £1.74 billion.

In the fast-expanding luxury goods sector, Dunhill made £49 million (£38 million) before minority interests and Cartier, a 47 per cent-owned associate, contributed £69 million (£41 million).

Exchange rate movements added £15 million to profits but tobacco profits were charged after a one-off payment of £21 million to fund pension liabilities in Germany.

The group's net cash and near-cash increased from

£454 million to £508 million, but this was mainly a result of the depreciation of sterling.

Compagnie Financière Richemont, the Swiss group controlled by the Rupert family that now owns 68 per cent of the votes in Rothmans International, reported profits up from £468 million to £581 million, pre-tax and before minorities. Apart from Rothmans, this includes most of the rest of Cartier plus a quarter stake in Transatlantic, the insurance and property group, and North American Resources, an integrated oil and gas group.

After buying out the Philip Morris interest in Rothmans, Richemont now intends to take a greater role and has Johann Rupert on the Rothmans board. A strategic review of the European tobacco industry is being made over the next two years in the hope of taking advantage of the removal of the tobacco monopolies in Latin countries in the European Community and sorting out the confused rights to brand names among the big tobacco groups.



Rex Williams going to the Rex Williams Leisure creditors' meeting yesterday

## Rex Williams sale is agreed

By Rodney Henson

REX Williams, the former billiards champion fighting a rearguard action to save the company bearing his name, lost the first round yesterday.

Shareholders and creditors agreed to the sale of the gaming machines division to the unrelated Jeffrey Williams, a current director of Rex Williams Leisure. It took the creditors three hours and the shareholders more than two to give approval at often acrimonious meetings at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. Even so, 17 shareholders present voted against, and only 12 for, despite being warned by Peter Copp, the administrator, that the company would go into liquidation if the deal was blocked.

Mr Copp held proxies for 11.4 million shares in favour. Mr Rex Williams claimed proxies against from 300 shareholders owning 1.7 million shares.

Rex Williams Leisure lost £4.84 million in an ill-fated expansion programme after Frank Warren, the boxing promoter, took a 29.5 per cent stake in 1987 at the time of a rights issue. These losses were, Mr Copp said, the primary factor contributing to the company's present financial difficulty. He estimated net debts at almost £4.5 million.

Various matters remain subject to investigation, Mr Copp said. They included how the company came to possess 1,000 tickets with a face value

of £75 each for a Frank Sinatra concert at London Arena next month, he said. The tickets, for a concert now cancelled, were handed over by Mr Warren as part repayment of £200,000 he received for an option to bid for his company, Frank Warren Promotions.

The main asset of Rex Williams Leisure, which will be virtually a shell after the sale of the gaming machines division, is its listing. The possibility of another company reversing into it represents shareholders' only hope that their shares have value.

Mr Copp said that three possible deals were being discussed and Mr Rex Williams left the meeting to consider whether to put up a fourth.

## BICC cash call to pay for GEGC stake buy

By MATTHEW BOND

BICC, the cable and construction group, has negotiated options to buy up to 90 per cent of Grupo Espanol, General Cable, the Spanish cable company, over the next two years.

BICC has owned 20 per cent of GEGC since January. Under the new deal, BICC is likely to increase its stake to 75 per cent by end-1992.

The increased stake will be paid for by a £177 million rights issue of convertible capital bonds.

The remaining 25 per cent of GEGC could be floated on the Madrid stock exchange in 1993. If the float is cancelled or postponed, BICC is expected to acquire this amount.

BICC shares were flat, despite an undertaking of an increased interim dividend of 6p a share (5.75p) for the half year ending this week.

The shares fell 16 to 442p on the news that existing shareholders were being asked to subscribe for 13 new convertible capital bonds for every 20 ordinary shares in BICC held. The bonds are priced at 100p and will carry a coupon of 10.75 per cent. The rights issue eliminates BICC's year-end borrowings.

The bonds are convertible into ordinary shares after July 1992, at a conversion price of 510p per ordinary share.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Courts bucks trend by rising to £11.5m

COURTS, the furniture group, is bucking the trend among furniture retailers. The company saw operating profits rise from £14.9 million to £17.5 million for the year to March.

Sales rose from £146 million to £154 million. Profits before tax and deferred profit were £11.5 million up from £11 million. Property profits rose from £1.56 million to £3.82 million. Earnings per share fell from 24.7p to 20.9p and the final dividend has been maintained at 3.17p, making 5p for the year. Net assets per share rose from 344p to 351p. The group says prospects are good with strong recovery potential in Britain and excellent opportunities for further development overseas. The shares rose 5p to 169p.

### Cranswick Mill ahead

CRANSWICK Mill Group, the pig feed and marketing concern, reported taxable profits up from £670,000 to £921,000 for the year to end-March. Earnings per share rose to 6.5p (8.8p). A 3.7p final means the total dividend is maintained at 5.55p a share for the third consecutive year. Turnover rose 10 per cent to £64.6 million.

### Sterling profit nearly double

STERLING Industries, the light engineering group controlled by the Cayzer family, almost doubled pre-tax profits from £1.64 million to £3.14 million in the year to end-March. Earnings per share rose from 5.25p to 7.84p. A final dividend of 3.65p makes 5p for the year (4p). Investment income rose 32 per cent to £1.17 million.

### Wagon advances 34%

WAGON Industrial, the West Midlands manufacturer of filing cabinets, warehouse shelving and railway buffers, reported a 34 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £20.5 million for the year to March 31. Earnings per share climbed from 33.7p to 38.41p. The total dividend is up 14.3 per cent to 16p. Wagon said it expected another year of "good progress" despite an uncertain economic climate.

It has agreed to sell its office equipment division to Skandinavisk Holding of Denmark for £28.25 million. Inter-company loans of £4.3 million would also be repaid. Wagon said Skandinavisk would also pay it a sum equal to twice the amount by which the total pre-tax profits of the division exceed £3.5 million in the year to end-March, 1991.

### Ensor rises in flotation year

ENSOR Holdings, the Mercedes-Benz distributor, reported taxable profits up from £1.38 million to £1.53 million for the year to end-March, the company's first full year since flotation on the USM. A final dividend of 2.5p a share increases the total dividend from 3p to 3.30p, payable from earnings per share of 10.5p (9.6p).

### Wyndham edges ahead

WYNDHAM Group, the property investment, motor distribution and financial services group, reported taxable profits virtually unchanged at £3.4 million (£3.2 million) for the year to the end of March. A final dividend of 4p a share, making a total of 6p (4.5p), is payable from earnings per share of 45.2p, down from 51.6p.

### Wood up to £1.75m

GRAHAM Wood, the structural engineering group, reported taxable profits up from £1.15 million to £1.75 million for the year to end-March. Earnings per share fell from 38.8p to 35.5p as a result of a return to a full tax charge of 36 per cent (13 per cent).

A final dividend of 5p a share makes a total of 8p for the year. Wood obtained a full listing midway through its previous financial year and paid a single dividend of 1.24p. Turnover was up 43 per cent to £39.77 million and operating profits rose 46 per cent to £2.18 million. Five acquisitions took place during the year. Ending fireproofing activities has resulted in an extraordinary charge of £90,000.

### Bristol Post profits fall to £7.9m

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK

BRISTOL Evening Post, the West Country newspaper group, which earlier this month avoided being taken over by David Sullivan, publisher of the *Sunday Sport*, has reported a slight downturn in profits.

Pre-tax profits for the year to March 31 slipped from £8.1 million to £7.9 million despite a near doubling of investment income to £626,000. Earnings per share dropped from 20.7p to 20.65p. A 7.75p final dividend makes 11.5p, up 9.5 per cent.

The group, which owns a chain of convenience stores, also reported an extraordinary credit of £2.5 million. This consisted of a £1.89 million special dividend from the Press Association, a £670,000 profit on share disposals and a £52,000 provision for repairs at its head office in Bristol.

The company escaped a hostile bid from Mr Sullivan, who also publishes the twice-weekly *Sport* newspapers, after the Monopolies and Mergers Commission ruled that such a deal would be against the public interest. Mr Sullivan still holds a 7.4 per cent stake of the Bristol Evening Post.

### Coal offer 'meaner' says Globe

By NEIL BENNETT

GLOBE Investment Trust has attacked the final £1.11 billion bid by the British Coal pension funds as even meaner than the first offer.

In the trust's latest defence document, David Hardy, Globe's chairman, says the British Coal pension funds have clearly miscalculated the value of their offer.

He said: "The coal funds' suggestions are consistent with their attempts to buy Globe on the cheap. They just want to push shareholders into accepting the offer."

The document points out that the offer has only been increased by 7.3 per cent to 205p, while the increase in the trust's net assets between the two dates was 8.9 per cent.

Globe still claims its total value is 233p a share. Nevertheless, the British Coal pension funds are still buying shares in the market. They now control 42.3 per cent of the trust, up from 41.9 per cent.

A further six million shares went through the stock market yesterday as an institution sold two million to the British Coal pension funds, taking them close to 43 per cent.

### Enquiry into IAWS bid

By OUR CITY STAFF

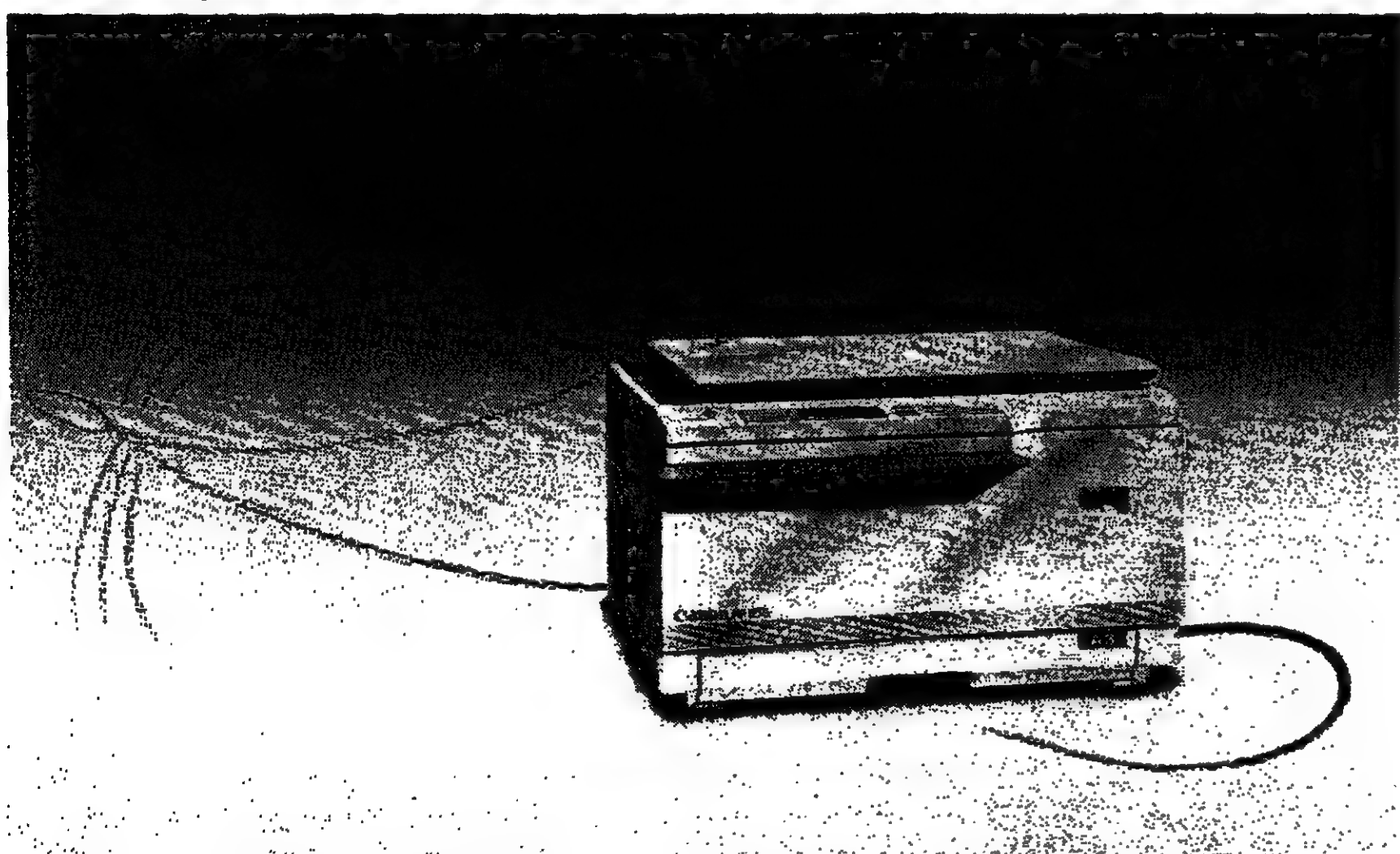
DESMOND O'Malley, the Republic of Ireland's minister for industry and commerce, has referred the Ir£44 million (£40.7 million) hostile bid for R&H Hall, the Cork-based grain and fuel group, by IAWS, the Irish agribusiness group, to the Irish Fair Trade Commission.

The commission, the equivalent of Britain's Monopolies and Mergers Commission, will report its findings on July 23.

The hostile offer, launched just a week after R&H Hall ended bid discussions with IAWS in late April, remains open for acceptance. The next closing date is July 6.

R&H Hall had also complained that the terms of the deal — ten new ordinary shares, 500p cash and 700p nominal of convertible unsecured loan stock for every ten Hall shares — did not fully reflect the group's value.

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## Mecca misses a peace dividend

### COMMENT

DAVID BREWERTON

One man bands go out of tune remarkably quickly if the musician loses his form, and the sad and sudden illness of Michael Guthrie, Mr Mecca, left the rest of the board with little with which to continue the act of defiance against Rank Organisation. The prices, which were being offered, and then withdrawn, for assets up for sale were such that they would have done more harm than good to Mecca's balance sheet. Interest charges are the death watch beetle in Mecca's rafters. Guthrie was needed to keep them shored up.

So far, so good. What is much more difficult to understand is why Mecca threw in the towel without there being a price-tag attached. Given that it had its back to the wall, given that the whole world knew it was a forced seller and that Guthrie was poorly, Mecca still had a card in its hand, and a powerful card at that. There should have been a price for a recommendation: Rank knows this, its advisers know it and Mecca knows it. What is more, the market knows it, and those shareholders who

are not also up to their knees in Rank shares might ask the board why the price was not demanded, especially as what Mecca says to the Office of Fair Trading will be an important factor in whether or not the bid is referred.

Rank's offer, fair and generous though it may be (those who know the chief executive, Michael Gifford, would not in any case set him down as a soft touch), was the price offered for a fight. The offer for peace should have been slightly higher. Samuel Montagu, didn't even ask for a meeting with Rank's bankers to talk about it. Mecca simply rolled over, leaving Rank to tickle its tummy.

What is more, Rank could have afforded to pay more, to call up part of the reserve that every hostile bidder keeps to sweeten the deal in the event of unexpected good news from the target. On the basis of market forecasts, there is no Rank

earnings dilution in the first year, largely because both companies are "second half" earners and the second halves are just starting. By next year, benefits of amalgamation will be coming through. Even taking on Mecca's mighty gearing will leave Rank with a comfortable balance sheet, gearing under 50 per cent and assets coming out of its ears.

Mecca's difficulties, too, need to be put into perspective. The temporary loss of Guthrie while he recovers from his operation would have been inconvenient, but not shattering. The company has recently brought in one of the best finance directors on the circuit, Bob Nellist from Thorn EMI, who in one month has both come to grips with the problems

and proposed a programme to deal with them. Mecca is a group with reasonable divisional management which could have been kept ticking over, and ticking down the debt, while a longer term solution was unfolded.

Rank itself will be curious as to why there was so sudden a change of direction, and will be wondering if the diligent Nellist has uncovered some skeletons to tumble from the cupboards.

The time for deep investigation is past, however. Rank gave up its right to comb the books from top to bottom when it made a hostile bid, and by recommending acceptance of the existing offer rather than renegotiating a new one, Mecca has not handed Rank any of

those rights back. Mecca is "sold as seen", subject to the usual rules on disclosure.

But it is indeed weird that Rank has been allowed to assume leading market positions in casinos, amusement machines, bingo halls, holiday camps and coach holidays, and a strong position in discos, without paying a premium to do so. Mecca is either dumb, or crafty, or being leaned on by the banks. I suspect the last.

### Must try again

In his report on the Stock Exchange's company news monopoly, Sir Gordon Borrie found himself for the second time in a few weeks damning arrangements the exchange had decided to change some time ago. Since Sir Gordon is not a man to be out of date, he looked at the proposed new regime informally and concluded, rather carpishly,

that it was much better but probably not good enough.

The exchange will no doubt review the charging system he criticised, although the new regulatory news service will give private information providers such as Reuters or Emtel the same access to company news as the exchange's own Topic service. In principle, it would be best to get rid of the monopoly altogether. But the exchange, in its regulatory role, has to ensure there is not a false market. The easiest, if anti-competitive, way is to channel all price-sensitive company news through a central source that will issue a full version at the same time as it is received elsewhere.

There remain practical problems. At busy times, news can be delayed, queuing to be put out. Competition might cut delays and the risk of leaks. The Stock Exchange service operates only around market hours, unsuitable for a global market in which some companies have multiple quotations.

The system also puts private investors at a disadvantage, since they tend to receive the news last.

### TEMPUS

## Roof falls in on builders

GRIM figures from three householders confirmed the market's fears about the worst housing market since the war. In each case, the hefty profits of the previous year were all but wiped out.

Berkeley Group, the up-market builder that favours lush stockbroker-belt locations in the southeast, weathered the storm relatively well. It has an aversion to carrying large banks of housing land and, unlike Fairbairn and Crest Nicholson, was able to liquidate large borrowings by sales of housing stock.

Berkeley has taken tremendous strides since it joined the USM in the early Eighties and the market has been wary that it might not fare well in tough markets. That fear has been laid to rest by the sharp reduction in gearing from 40 per cent at the end of the last financial year.

Berkeley made no bones about an expected slump in profits for the full year. After an 83 per cent slide at the half-way stage, profits almost disappeared by the year end. After £22 million last year, profits emerged at £3 million before a £2.8 million provision on existing stock. Earnings per share slumped from 34.2p to just 0.3p. The maintained final dividend of 3p makes an unchanged total dividend of 4.5p for the year.

Berkeley has scope for gearing up its unstretched balance sheet. Present year profits may not recover much beyond £5 million, giving earnings per share of around 8p. The current price earnings multiple of 23 is academic, looking forward to a leap forward in the next financial year.

Crest Nicholson gave a warning in February that it would make little if any profit in the first half. But the market was not ready for a £572,000 loss and the shares slipped 9p to 144p.

A combination of lower completions in the half year to end-April, some 466 against 590 last time, plus softer prices did the damage and the group is now carrying larger stocks than it likes. Hence the rise in gearing from 11 per cent at the end of April. For the rest of the year Crest will aim for volume and hopes for completions little down on last year at around 1300. They will, however, be at keener margins. Analysts expect little more than £14 million pre-tax for the current year compared with £37 million in the 1989 financial year. The shares look good for recovery, as the maintained 3p interim dividend suggests, but should not be chased yet.

The least comfortable of the builders reporting yesterday was Fairbairn where profits

crashed from £13 million to £2.3 million, gearing remains at around 200 per cent and the final dividend was passed. Below the line there was a £1.1 million write down on share stakes in quoted builders and an £850,000 provision against a heavy landbank of 2000 plots. Fairbairn is not optimistic about a recovery and remains afloat courtesy of its bankers.

### Hogg Robinson

GOOD news is scarce in the agency sector, so the market is warming to Hogg Robinson. After extracting itself from the remaining 40 per cent of its estate agency business in January with no trading loss, HR said last month its results would be better than expected and has still pipped most forecasts.

Pre-tax profits, down from £11 million to £5 million in 1988-89, recovered nearly all the way to £10.4 million in the year to end-March.

The dominant travel agency business provided the late good news, with the volume of holiday bookings running only 4 per cent down in the spring against a 15 per cent drop in the package holiday market. HR raised its share, thanks to mild discounting, which it had eschewed before, and promotion of its winter-and-all resorts guide.

Even so, the leisure side contributed only losses and the travel profit of £2.3 million, down from £3 million, came solely from its pole position in business travel. The running came from the relatively small transport division, up from £2.9 million to £3.5 million and now expanding as a full continental haulage business.

Financial services, chiefly retail life assurance and pensions broking, made £2.4 million, against £1.4 million, while the £33 million cash pile, of which £5 million arrived in January, brought in £3.5 million (£1.1 million).

Hogg Robinson remains a recovery stock. At 125p, 5p, the shares yield 5.6 per cent in dividend and sell at 13.8 times' earnings. The p/e ratio should come down to 12 if profits rise to £11.7 million this year, which should be manageable without any significant improvement in the holiday market.

HR has been improving its holiday agencies with a pioneering computer booking system, foreign exchange bureaux and the cheap purchase of 19 extra branches. Profits should therefore rise sharply, if and when Britons recover their hunger for foreign sun.

The risk, meanwhile, is small, as Sir Ron Brierley, who has a 16 per cent stake, has no doubt calculated.

## Why desire for revenge may bring Bond's end



Decision day: Alan Bond's backers vote today

pleasant ultimatum. It is asking them to nod through the Aus\$1.8 billion sale of its Castlemaine XXXX, Swan and Tooheys breweries to Bell Resources, an independently managed subsidiary, and, for good measure, to waive more than US\$20 million of interest due on their securities over the next year.

Otherwise, Bond Corp executives insist, the long-mooted brewing sale will be shelved, the cash-strapped company will go into receivership, and its senior lenders will get first call on the assets.

That may be good news for the host of British banks, led by Standard Chartered and by Midland and its 15 per cent associate, Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corpora-

tion, which still have several hundred million pounds of shabby loans with Bond group companies.

However, for the unhappy bondholders, well down the creditors' queue, it is an unappetising prospect.

Unfortunately, their alternative offer is little better. In return for giving up their protective covenants over Bond's brewing assets, and, hence, their last real security, they are being offered a promissory note that would promote them in the list of lenders if Bond Corp finally went bust.

The snag is that Bond Corp's mountain of debt, despite nearly Aus\$7 billion of asset sales in the past two years, is still more than a net Aus\$5 billion - well above the value of its remaining operations.

So only the highest-ranking creditors stand to recoup their money if Bond Corp is finally shunted into liquidation, a fate that most analysts in Australia see as inevitable, even if the brewing sale goes through.

A minority of bondholders are pressing for a better deal from Bond Corp to escape this dilemma. They are demanding that the company abide by conditions on its original bond offer and buy back their securities at a discount to par. However, Bond Corp, with its hands tied by its bankers, has refused to do so.

Dealers in London say that many of the bondholders will meekly give their assent today because they are loath to derail Bond's brewing disposal.

They also own bonds in Bell Resources and therefore stand to gain on those securities if the breweries sale goes through.

"It's shaping up to be a pretty close vote," a Eurobond salesman said.

Mr Bond could yet win by default. If less than half the bondholders by value attend the meeting, Bond Corp could declare it inquorate and quickly call another vote with less onerous participation requirements.

Whether that would mean anything more than a temporary reprieve for a tarnished tycoon remains to be seen.

Martin Winn

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Vestey backs a winner

LORD Vestey, aged 49, who along with his cousin, Edmund, is one of the wealthiest men in Britain - their family empire encompasses the Dewhurst butchers' chain and Blue Star shipping - is parting with £4,000 of his own cash to help fund half the prize money for a horse race in Hungary. It is expected that Vestey's involvement - he hopes to attend - will help attract other members of the international racing jet set to the event, being held in Budapest on July 29. The Vestey money will be on the nose of the most important race of the day and will form part of a legendary prize, named after a legendary horse, unbeaten during the late 1800s. "The Hungarians approached us and we were happy to sponsor the race," says Lord Vestey, who is also a prominent member of the Jockey Club. Vestey admits, true to his business inheritance, that the sponsorship will probably do no harm to those business interests that are keen to raise their profile in Eastern Europe. Indeed Edmund, it so happens, has just finished accompanying John Gummer, the agriculture and food minister, on a trip to Hungary.

### Howat tipped

TOP financiers, keen to encourage trade with Eastern Europe, are clubbing together, under the auspices of the British Invisible Exports Council

that counts International Stock Exchange chairman Andrew Hugh Smith and Midland Bank's deputy chairman Sir Michael Palliser among its members. Their plan is to set up a committee to help stock-brokers, merchant banks and solicitors work together. Tipped to lead this committee is Ian Howat of Franklin & Andrews, the chartered surveyor. Howat, a father of three, who describes himself as "a rather aged" 47, has just returned from Moscow, where he was a guest of the Academy of National Economy, the closest thing Moscow has to the Harvard Business School. "The reception was quite outstanding," he tells me, adding that the locals were clearly keen on the idea of a free market.

Swiss miss THE powers that be at Swiss Bank Corporation, the Swiss



### Fits the bill

A NEW health club in Wall Street is using the advertising slogan: "We specialise in stock brokers."

### Different tongue

ACCOUNTANTS may be boring but they are at least taking steps to improve themselves. According to a survey carried out by Harrison Willis, the financial and legal recruitment consultants, accountants stand more or less alone in the quest to learn Russian. The survey, of three leading language schools, found that there had as yet been no increase in registration by City companies, despite the changing East European climate. "The only exceptions were to be found among some of the accountancy firms," says Ken Robson, of Harrison Willis. Other City firms would no

doubt argue that they are too busy. One of the schools admitted that, even on a one to one basis, it normally takes 160 hours to master a degree of fluency in the language.

### Fighting spirit

THE British fighting spirit was very much in evidence in the Square Mile yesterday when Anglo-Eastern Plantations, a quoted subsidiary of Chillingworth Corporation that operates oil palm, cocoa and rubber plantations in Indonesia, insisted upon holding its annual meeting in the premises of the Honourable Artillery Company, as it had originally planned, despite the IRA bomb attack this month.

Upon the instruction of eccentric, bearded, chairman Michael Nittingale - a former mayor of Maidstone, awarded the OBE after a six-year tenure as secretary of the Museums Association and editor of the *Museums Journal* - the company secretary Derry Maher, an Irishman, had written to the adjutant saying that they wanted the meeting to go ahead "whatever the condition of the accommodation". If necessary, he added, "by putting a tent on the lawn". "My directors," he wrote, "are adamant that our shareholders will not be inconvenienced by cowardly terrorist activity". The meeting in the event, went ahead as planned, but with metal sheeting covering the hole in the roof.

Carol Leonard



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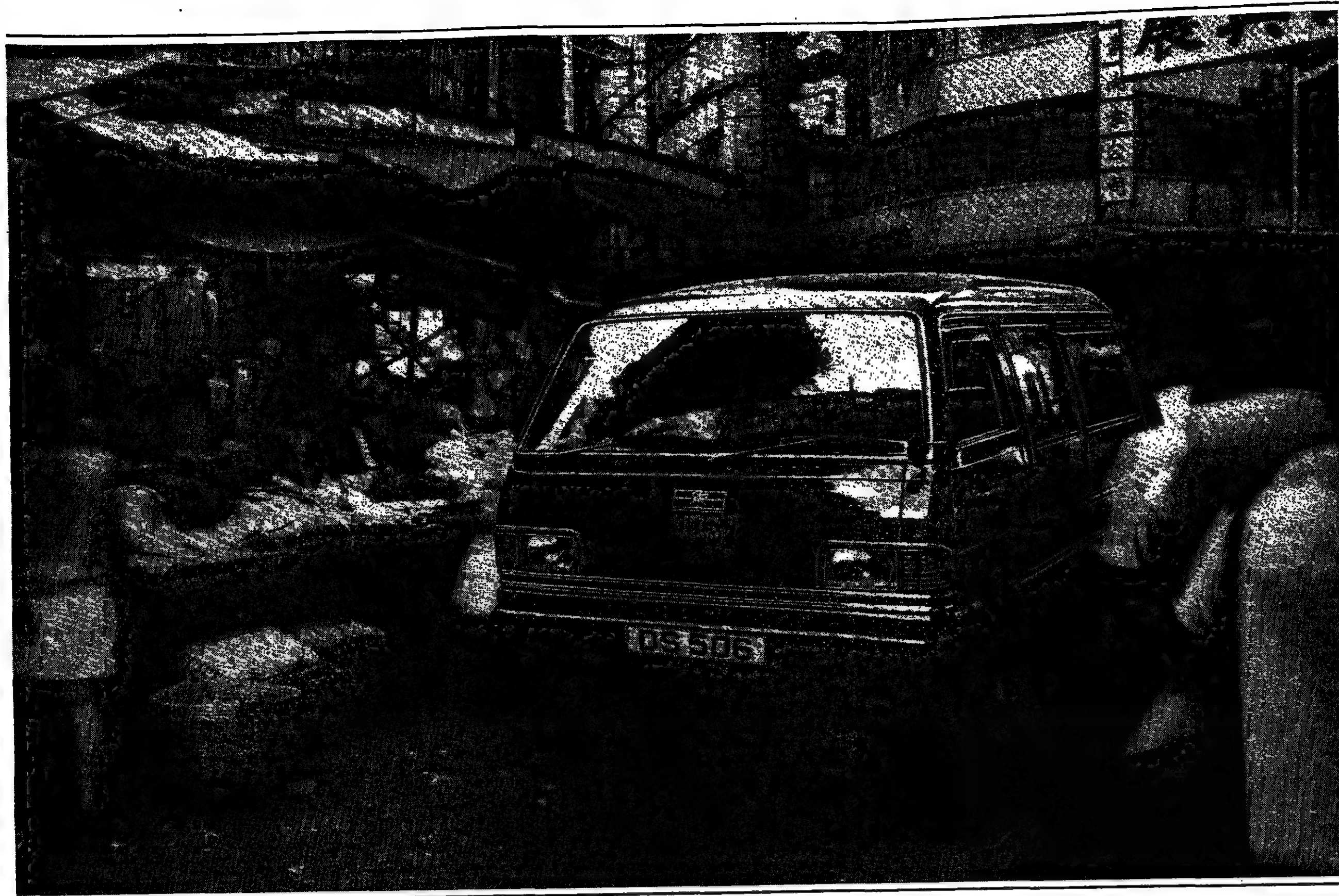
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Revenue per Share - July 1991	33.41

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Paul D. Taylor, t

Paul D. Taylor, t



## Indicators point to economic slowdown

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S longer leading indicator of economic trends fell 0.6 per cent in April to 94.8, continuing the fall of the previous two months under the influence of declining share prices. Central Statistical Office data show.

The indicator, designed to identify turning points in the economy a year ahead, showed little change in the second half of last year, when growth in share prices and improved company financial balances offset the fall in housing starts. The provisional shorter leading index, indicating changes six months ahead, was unchanged at 97.6 in April. It has been fairly flat since the end of last year.

The coincident index, which generally moves in line with the business cycle, declined further by 0.2 point to 98.5, while the lagging index, which shows a turning point about nine months after it happened, fell 0.4 point to 102.9.

The American index of leading indicators, Washington's main guide to future growth, rose 0.8 per cent in May, suggesting that the economy will avoid recession in the next six to nine months. The rise, which followed an 0.1 per cent fall in April, was stronger than expected on Wall Street.

## Deal worth £242 million sets record for Australian stock

# BHP sells 30% of Woodside

By ANGELA MACKAY

BROKEN Hill Proprietary, Australia's biggest company, has placed a 30 per cent stake, worth Aus\$534 million (£242 million), in Woodside Petroleum in a record "bought" deal for an Australian stock.

BZW, the brokers, bought and placed the stake with a variety of international institutions at Aus\$2.67 a share compared with Woodside's closing price of Aus\$2.93.

About one third of the stock is believed to have been placed with British institutions.

BHP has retained a 10 per cent holding in Woodside, one of the

world's largest natural resource projects.

Shell is now the largest shareholder with a 40 per cent stake.

BHP first took an interest in Woodside in 1977. Eight years later, BHP and Shell made a joint takeover bid for the company and later underwrote a rights issue which took their combined holding to 80 per cent.

Woodside is heavily involved in the rich North-West Shelf Project with a 16.6 per cent interest in the sales of liquefied natural gas.

BHP also has an 8.33 per cent interest in the shelf project, indepen-

dant to the indirect holding through Woodside.

Six months ago, BHP announced it was offering its 40 per cent stake for tender through JP Morgan, the American investment bank. However, this approach was unsuccessful and the company then started accepting bids from stockbrokers.

When the tender was announced, Woodside was trading at about Aus\$3.28 a share and BHP was expecting a much higher profit than the 85 cents a share turn the company is believed to have made yesterday.

"At such a deep discount, it was a

very good buy for the institutions but BHP's preparedness to accept the price shows they have some cash calls looming," a leading Australian stockbroker said.

BHP has been looking to reduce its gearing and insulate itself against a loss if Harlin, the biggest shareholder in Elders IXL, collapses. BHP's exposure to Harlin is about Aus\$900 million.

Woodside was also an inflexible investment for BHP. It could not get control of the company and did not receive any direct cashflow from its investment.

## Colorvision soars 62% at half-way

COLORVISION, the Liverpool retailer of televisions and video recorders, bought some cheer to the gloomy retail sector when it reported taxable profits up 62 per cent to £3.46 million for the six months to the end of March.

Despite tough conditions caused by high interest rates, sales rose by 41 per cent to £25.57 million and operating profits 58 per cent to £2.8 million. Interest earned on the company's £7 million cash mountain expanded from £358,000 to £656,000. The interim dividend is increased from 1.95p to 2.5p, payable from earnings a share of 11.11p (6.79p).

## Profit tops £2m at Stormgard

Stormgard, the stationery and office supplies group, made pre-tax profits of £2.1 million for the year to March 31, up from £1.5 million, boosted by a cut in the interest charge and an exceptional property profit of £192,000.

The final dividend is 1p, making 2p. Sales rose from £53.4 million to £63.1 million and earnings per share from 3.19p to 7.63p.

## Irish rate cut

The Irish central bank has cut its base lending rate by half a point to 11 per cent, the second cut this month, paving the way for cheaper home and bank loans.

## LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

		Strike				Call				Put			
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Alco Lyen	480	46	88	80	14	6	14						
Alco Lyen	520	50	92	84	18	6	14						
Alco Lyen	560	54	96	88	22	8	14						
Alco Lyen	600	58	100	92	26	10	14						
Alco Lyen	640	62	104	96	30	12	14						
Alco Lyen	680	66	108	100	34	14	14						
Alco Lyen	720	70	112	104	38	16	14						
Alco Lyen	760	74	116	108	42	18	14						
Alco Lyen	800	78	120	112	46	20	14						
Alco Lyen	840	82	124	116	50	22	14						
Alco Lyen	880	86	128	120	54	24	14						
Alco Lyen	920	90	132	124	58	26	14						
Alco Lyen	960	94	136	128	62	28	14						
Alco Lyen	1000	98	140	132	66	30	14						
Alco Lyen	1040	102	144	136	70	32	14						
Alco Lyen	1080	106	148	140	74	34	14						
Alco Lyen	1120	110	152	144	78	36	14						
Alco Lyen	1160	114	156	148	82	38	14						
Alco Lyen	1200	118	160	152	86	40	14						
Alco Lyen	1240	122	164	156	90	42	14						
Alco Lyen	1280	126	168	160	94	44	14						
Alco Lyen	1320	130	172	164	98	46	14						
Alco Lyen	1360	134	176	168	102	48	14						
Alco Lyen	1400	138	180	172	106	50	14						
Alco Lyen	1440	142	184	176	110	52	14						
Alco Lyen	1480	146	188	180	114	54	14						
Alco Lyen	1520	150	192	184	118	56	14						
Alco Lyen	1560	154	196	188	122	58	14						
Alco Lyen	1600	158	200	192	126	60	14						
Alco Lyen	1640	162	204	196	130	62	14						
Alco Lyen	1680	166	208	200	134	64	14						
Alco Lyen	1720	170	212	204	138	66	14						
Alco Lyen	1760	174	216	208	142	68	14						
Alco Lyen	1800	178	220	212	146	70	14						
Alco Lyen	1840	182	224	216	150	72	14						
Alco Lyen	1880	186	228	220	154	74	14						
Alco Lyen	1920	190	232	224	158	76	14						
Alco Lyen	1960	194	236	228	162	78	14						
Alco Lyen	2000	198	240	232	166	80	14						
Alco Lyen	2040	202	244	236	170	82	14						
Alco Lyen	2080	206	248	240	174	84	14						
Alco Lyen	2120	210	252	244	178	86	14						
Alco Lyen	2160	214	256	248	182	88	14						
Alco Lyen	2200	218	260	252	186	90	14						
Alco Lyen	2240	222	264	256	190	92	14						
Alco Lyen	2280	226	268	260	194	94	14						
Alco Lyen	2320	230	272	264	198	96	14						
Alco Lyen	2360	234	276	268	202	98	14						
Alco Lyen	2400	238	280	272	206	100	14						
Alco Lyen	2440	242	284	276	210	102	14						
Alco Lyen	2480	246	288	280	214	104	14						
Alco Lyen	2520	250	292	284	218	106	14						
Alco Lyen	2560	254	296	288	222	108	14						
Alco Lyen	2600	258	300	292	226	110	14						
Alco Lyen	2640	262	304	296	230	112	14						
Alco Lyen	2680	266	308	300	234	114	14						
Alco Lyen	2720	270	312	304	238	116	14						
Alco Lyen	2760	274	316	308	242	118	14						
Alco Lyen	2800	278	320	312	246	120	14						
Alco Lyen	2840	282	324	316	250	122	14						
Alco Lyen	2880	286	328	320	254	124	14						
Alco Lyen	2920	290	332	324	258	126	14						
Alco Lyen	2960	294	336	328	262	128	14						
Alco Lyen	3000	298	340	332	266	130	14						
Alco Lyen	3040	302	344	336	270	132	14						
Alco Lyen	3080	306	348	340	274	134	14						
Alco Lyen	3120	310	352	344	278	136	14						
Alco Lyen	3160	314	356	348	282	138	14						
Alco Lyen	3200	318	360	352	286	140	14						
Alco Lyen	3240	322	364	356	290	142	14						
Alco Lyen	3280	326	368	360	294	144	14						
Alco Lyen	3320	330	372	364	298	146	14						
Alco Lyen	3360	334	376	368	302	148	14						
Alco Lyen	3400	338	380	372	306	150	14						
Alco Lyen	3440	342	384	376	310	152	14						
Alco Lyen	3480	346	388	380	314	154	14						
Alco Lyen	3520	350	392	384	318	156	14						
Alco Lyen	3560	354	396	388	322	158	14						
Alco Lyen	3600	358	400	392	326	160	14						
Alco Lyen	3640	362	404	396	330	162	14						
Alco Lyen	3680	366	408	400	334	164	14						
Alco Lyen	3720	370	412	404	338	166	14						
Alco Lyen	3760	374	416	408	342	168	14						
Alco Lyen	3800	378	420	412	346	170	14						
Alco Lyen	3840	382	424	416	350	172	14						
Alco Lyen	3880	386	428	420	354	174	14						
Alco Lyen	3920	390	432	424	358	176	14						
Alco Lyen	3960	394	436	428	362	178	14						
Alco Lyen	4000	398	440	432	366	180	14						
Alco Lyen	4040	402	444	436	370	182	14						
Alco Lyen	4080	406	448	440	374	184	14						
Alco Lyen	4120	410	452	444	378	186	14						
Alco Lyen	4160	414	456	448	382	188	14						
Alco Lyen	4200	418	460	452	386	190	14						
Alco Lyen	4240	422	464	456	390	192	14						
Alco Lyen	4280	426	468	460	394	194	14						
Alco Lyen	4320	430	472	464	398	196	14						
Alco Lyen	4360	434	476	468	402	198	14						
Alco Lyen	4400	438	480	472	406	200	14						
Alco Lyen	4440	442	484	476	410	202	14						
Alco Lyen	4480	446	488	480	414	204	14						
Alco Lyen	4520	450	492	484	418	206	14						
Alco Lyen	4560	454	496	488	422	208	14						
Alco Lyen	4600	458	500	492	426	210	14						
Alco Lyen	4640	462	504	496	430	212	14						
Alco Lyen	4680	466	508	500	434	214	14						
Alco Lyen	4720	470	512	504	438	216	14						
Alco Lyen	4760	474	516	508	442	218	14						
Alco Lyen	4800	478	520	512	446	220	14						
Alco Lyen	4840	482	524	516	450	222	14						
Alco Lyen	4880	486	528	520	454	224	14						
Alco Lyen	4920	490	532	524	458	226	14						
Alco Lyen	4960	494	536	528	462	228	14						
Alco Lyen	5000	498	540	532	466	230	14						
Alco Lyen	5040	502	544	536	470	232	14						
Alco Lyen	5080	506	548	540	474	234	14						
Alco Lyen	5120	510	552	544	478	236	14						
Alco Lyen	5160	514	556	548	482	238	14						
Alco Lyen	5200	518	560	552	486	240	14						
Alco Lyen	5240	522	564	556	490	242	14						
Alco Lyen	5280	526	568	560	494	244	14						
Alco Lyen	5320	530	572	564	498	246	14						
Alco Lyen	5360	534	576	568	502	248	14						
Alco Lyen	5400	538	580	572	506	250	14						
Alco Lyen	5440	542	584	576	510	252	14						
Alco Lyen	5480	546	588	580	514	254	14						
Alco Lyen	5520	550	592	584	518	256	14						
Alco Lyen	5560	554	596	588	522	258	14						
Alco Lyen	5600	558	600	592	526	260	14						
Alco Lyen	5640	562	604	596	530	262	14						
Alco Lyen	5680	566	608	600	534	264	14						
Alco Lyen	5720	570	612	604	538	266	14						
Alco Lyen	5760	574	616	608	542	268	14						







## Dow opens up a fraction

ber 8, 1989 at Knightsbridge Crown Court (Judge Lawrence) following the appellant's plea of guilty on November 8 to theft.

Miss Harriette Black, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant.

MR JUSTICE JUPP, giving the judgment of the court, said that on plea the appellant was represented by his solicitor, counsel, but when the case came on for sentence they had not been informed and were not there.

The judge indicated that he was minded to pass a sentence of imprisonment, suspended, but would put the matter back for counsel to attend if the appellant wished. The appellant

the judge did was sensible, but in the circumstances it was unlawful.

Even though the sentence was invalid because of section 31(1) of the 1973 Act the Court of Appeal had power to vary it since the judge did have the power to impose such a sentence. See *R v McGinlay and Ballantyne* (1976) 62 Cr App R 156).

Equally, the unlawfulness could be put right if their Lordships considered that the sentence was the only reasonable one to pass, and therefore upheld or imposed the same sentence.

On the merits of the case their Lordships were all of the opinion that no other sentence was appropriate.



*Reflex*  
PLATINUM

This image shows a large, mostly blank, lined page from a document, possibly a ledger or notebook. The page is oriented vertically and shows horizontal ruling lines. There is some faint, illegible text at the top and bottom of the page.

## FOREIGN EXCHANGES

FIVE TO SEVEN YEARS  
 OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

per cent. Spot Silver: \$4.82-4.84 (£2.765-2.780)

UNLIMITED  
BANKS, DISCOUNT, 1-2 P



## Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall final and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the prize money. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Only or less
1	Powell Duffryn	Transport	
2	Hong Robinson Plc	Draperies	
3	Burton's	Transport	
4	Goers Group	Paper Print Adv	
5	Regal	Property	
6	Connell Parker A	Industrials A-D	
7	Evans Of Leeds	Property	
8	CH Ind	Industrials A-D	
9	Coors Wilson	Transport	
10	Fitch Lovell	Food	
11	Capra	Industrials A-D	
12	Brambles	Paper Print Adv	
13	ASW	Industrials A-D	
14	IMI (as)	Industrials E-K	
15	Stetson	Industrials S-Z	
16	Woodside	Oil Gas	
17	Dyson (UK)	Industrials A-D	
18	Moorefield Estates	Property	
19	Manfield	Breweries	
20	Michael Page	Industrials L-R	
21	Chancery	Banking Finance	
22	Telford	Industrials S-Z	
23	Expanet	Industrials E-K	
24	Gilson (UK)	Building Roads	
25	Parter Chubb	Industrials L-R	
26	Kelley Ind	Industrials E-K	
27	Appletree Hides	Food	
28	Coors (as)	Industrials A-D	
29	Dalrymple (as)	Food	
30	Journal (Thomas)	Industrials E-K	
31	Vitroland	Building Roads	
32	Whewy	Industrials S-Z	
33	Gr Portland	Property	
34	Wassall	Industrials S-Z	
35	Berkley Gp	Building Roads	
36	Joseph (Leopold)	Banking Finance	
37	Yorkshire TV	Leisure	
38	Micro	Electronics	
39	Haden MacLellan	Industrials E-K	
40	Brinson	Property	
41	Smith & Neph (as)	Industrials S-Z	
42	Sou TV	Leisure	
43	Tra Hides	Industrials S-Z	
44	Deacons	Property	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

Three winners shared the £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. They were Jacky Riccielli of Bournemouth, Michael Williams of West Ealing, and Pamela Pallister of Saffron Walden, Essex.

### BRITISH FUNDS

1989	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0
101	101	101	101	101	0	0	0	0
102	102	102	102	102	0	0	0	0
103	103	103	103	103	0	0	0	0
104	104	104	104	104	0	0	0	0
105	105	105	105	105	0	0	0	0
106	106	106	106	106	0	0	0	0
107	107	107	107	107	0	0	0	0
108	108	108	108	108	0	0	0	0
109	109	109	109	109	0	0	0	0
110	110	110	110	110	0	0	0	0

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS									
1989	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield	1989
100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0	100
101	101	101	101	101	0	0	0	0	101
102	102	102	102	102	0	0	0	0	102
103	103	103	103	103	0	0	0	0	103
104	104	104	104	104	0	0	0	0	104
105	105	105	105	105	0	0	0	0	105
106	106	106	106	106	0	0	0	0	106
107	107	107	107	107	0	0	0	0	107
108	108	108	108	108	0	0	0	0	108
109	109	109	109	109	0	0	0	0	109
110	110	110	110	110	0	0	0	0	110

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS									
1989	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield	1989
100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0	100
101	101	101	101	101	0	0	0	0	101
102	102	102	102	102	0	0	0	0	102
103	103	103	103	103	0	0	0	0	103
104	104	104	104	104	0	0	0	0	104
105	105	105	105	105	0	0	0	0	105
106	106	106	106	106	0	0	0	0	106
107	107	107	107	107	0	0	0	0	107
108	108	108	108	108	0	0	0	0	108
109	109	109	109	109	0	0	0	0	109
110	110	110	110	110	0	0	0	0	110

UNDATED									
1989	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield	1989
100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0	100
101	101	101	101	101	0	0	0	0	101
102	102	102	102	102	0	0	0	0	102
103	103	103	103	103	0	0	0	0	103
104	104	104	104	104	0	0	0	0	104
105	105	105	105	105	0	0	0	0	105
106	106	106	106	106	0	0	0	0	106
107	107	107	107	107	0	0	0	0	107
108	108	108	108	108	0	0	0	0	108
109	109	109	109	109	0	0	0	0	109
110	110	110	110	110	0	0	0	0	110

INDEX-LINKED									
1989	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield	1989
100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0	100
101	101	101	101	101	0	0	0	0	101
102	102	102	102	102	0	0	0	0	102
103	103	103	103	103	0	0	0	0	103
104	104	104	104	104	0	0	0	0	104
105	105	105	105	105	0	0	0	0	105
106	106	106	106	106	0	0	0	0	106
107	107	107	107	107	0	0	0	0	107
108	108	108	108	108	0	0	0	0	108
109	109	109	109	109	0	0	0	0	109
110	110	110	110	110	0	0	0	0	110

### BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

1989	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0
101	101	101	101	101	0	0	0	0
102	102	102	102	102	0	0	0	0
103	103	103	103	103	0	0	0	0
104	104	104	104	104	0	0	0	0
105	105	105	105	105	0	0	0	0
106	106	106	106	106	0	0	0	0
107	107	107	107	107	0	0	0	0
108	108	108	108	108	0	0	0	0
109	109	109	109	109	0	0	0	0
110	110	110	110	110	0	0	0	0

## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

# General falls

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began June 25. Dealings end July 6. Contango day July 9. Settlement day July 16.  
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks.  
(VOLUMES: PAGE 28)

1989	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0
101	101	101	101	101	0	0	0	0
102	102	102	102	102	0	0	0	0
103	103	103	103	103	0	0	0	0
104	104	104	104	104	0	0	0	0
105	105	105	105	105	0	0	0	0
106	106	106	106	106	0	0	0	0
107	107	107	107	107	0	0	0	0
108	108	108	108	108	0	0	0	0
109	109	109	109	109	0	0	0	0
110	110	110	110	110	0	0	0	0

BREWERIES								
1989	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0
101	101	101	101	101	0	0	0	0
102	102	102	102	102	0	0	0	0
103	103	103	103	103	0	0	0	0
104	104	104	104	104	0	0	0	0
105	105	105	105	105	0	0	0	0
106	106	106	106	106	0	0	0	0
107	107	107	107	107	0	0	0	0
108	108	108	108	108	0	0	0	0
109	109	109	109	109	0	0	0	0
110	110	110	110	110	0	0	0	0

BUILDING, ROADS								
1989	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0
101	101	101	101	101	0	0	0	0
102	102	102	102	102	0	0	0	0
103	103	103	103	103	0	0	0	0
104	104	104	104	104	0	0	0	0
105	105	105	105	105	0	0	0	0
106	106	106	106	106	0	0	0	0
107	107	107	107	107	0	0	0	0
108	108	108	108	108	0	0	0	0
109	109	109	109	109	0	0	0	0
110	110	110	110	110	0	0	0	0

FINANCE, LAND								
1989	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0
101	101	101	101	101	0	0	0	0
102	102	102	102	102	0	0	0	0
103	103	103	103	103	0	0	0	0
104	104	104	104	104	0	0	0	0
105	105	105	105	105	0	0	0	0
106	106	106	106	106	0	0	0	0
107	107	107	107	107	0	0	0	0
108	108	108	108	108	0	0	0	0
109	109	109	109	109	0	0	0	0
110	110	110	110	110	0	0	0	0

FINANCIAL TRUSTS								
1989	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0
101	101	101	101	101	0	0	0	0
102	102	102	102	102	0	0	0	0
103	103	103	103	103	0	0	0	0
104	104	104	104	104	0	0	0	0
105	105	105	105	105	0	0	0	0
106	106	106	106	106	0	0	0	0
107	107	107	107	107	0	0	0	0
108	108	108	108	108	0	0	0	0
109	109	109	109	109	0	0	0	0
110	110	110	110	110	0	0	0	0
111	111	111	111	111	0	0	0	0
112	112	112	112	112	0	0	0	0
113	113	113	113	113	0	0	0	0
114	114	114	114	114	0	0	0	0
115	115	115	115	115	0	0	0	0
116	116	116	116	116	0	0	0	0
117	117	117	117	117	0	0	0	0
118	118	118	118	118	0	0	0	0
119	119	119	119	119	0	0	0	0
120	120	120	120	120	0	0	0	0
121	121	121	121	121	0	0	0	0
122	122	122	122	122	0	0	0	0
123	123	123	123	123	0	0	0	0
124	124	124	124	124	0	0	0	0
125	125	125	125	125	0	0	0	0
126	126	126	126	126	0	0	0	0
127	127	127	127	127	0	0	0	0
128	128	128	128	128	0	0	0	0
129	129	129	129	129	0	0	0	0
130	130	130	130	130	0	0	0	0
131	131	131	131	131	0	0	0	0
132	132	132	132	132	0	0	0	0
133	133	133	133	133	0	0	0	0
134	134	134	134	134	0	0	0	0
135	135	135	135	135	0	0	0	0
136	136	136	136	136	0	0	0	0
137	137	137	137	137	0	0	0	0
138	138	138	138	138	0	0	0	0
139	139	139	139	139	0	0	0	0
140	140	140	140	140	0	0	0	0
141	141	141	141	141	0	0	0	0
142	142	142	142	142	0	0	0	0
143	143	143	143	143	0	0	0	0
144	144	144	144	144	0	0	0	0
145	145	145	145	145	0	0	0	0
146	146	146	146	146	0	0	0	0
147	147	147	147	147	0	0	0	0
148	148	148	148	148	0	0	0	0
149	149	149	149	149	0	0	0	0
150	150	150	150	150	0	0	0	0
151	151	151	151	151	0	0	0	0
152	152	152	152	152	0	0	0	0
153	153	153	153	153	0	0	0	0
154	154	154	154	154	0	0	0	0
155	155	155	155	155	0	0	0	0
156	156	156	156	156	0	0	0	0
157	157	157	157	157	0	0	0	0
158	158	158	158	158	0	0	0	0
159	159	159	159	159	0	0	0	0
160	160	160	160	160	0	0	0	0
161	161	161	161	161	0	0	0	0
162	162	162	162	162	0	0	0	0
163	163	163	163	163	0	0	0	0
164	164	164	164	164	0	0	0	0
165	165	165	165	165	0	0	0	0
166	166	166	166	166	0	0	0	0
167	167	167	167	167	0	0	0	0
168	168	168	168	168	0	0	0	0
169	169	169	169	169	0	0	0	0
170	170	170	170	170	0	0	0	0
171	171	171	171	171	0	0	0	0
172	172	172	172	172	0	0	0	0
173	173	173	173	173	0	0	0	0
174	174	174	174	174	0	0	0	0
175	175	175	175	175	0	0	0	0
176	176	176	176	176	0	0	0	0
177	177	177	177	177	0	0	0	0
178	178	178	178	178	0	0	0	0
179	179	179	179	179	0	0	0	0
180	180	180	180	180	0	0	0	0
181	181	181	181	181	0	0	0	0
182	182	182	182	182	0	0	0	0
183	183	183	183	183	0	0	0	0
184	184	184	184	184	0	0	0	0
185	185	185	185	185	0	0	0	0
186	186	186	186	186	0	0	0	0
187	187	187	187	187	0	0	0	0
188	188	188	188	188	0	0	0	0
189	189	189	189	189	0	0	0	0
190	190	190	190	190	0	0	0	0
191	191	191	191	191	0	0	0	0
192	192	192	192	192	0	0	0	0
193	193	193	193	193	0	0	0	0
194	194	194	194	194	0	0	0	0
195	195	195	195	195	0	0	0	0
196	196	196	196	196	0	0	0	0
197	197	197	197	197	0	0	0	0
198	198	198	198	198	0	0	0	0
199	199	199	199	199	0	0	0	0
200	200	200	200	200	0	0	0	0



[illegible]

Part 1B

(Peter): A J M Banks (N  
 Beveridge (Queens): M  
 John: J M

G J Ertina (Cash)  
Quercus: A W J Bus  
S Candian (Ming)  
E K E Clark (Down)  
Perry: N J Collins (Chur)  
(Emm) M A El Ha  
A D Emanuel (Pemb) F C  
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## ford class

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### Subscription and Computation

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 Economics; Dr. A. G.  
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 Engineering; Mrs. G. J. Jones  
 Extension Studies; Mr. D. J. Jones  
 Physical Education; Dr. A. G.  
 Science; Dr. D. E. Paine

**References:**

and Swinfen, Senior Lecturer in the Department of History has been appointed to a Personal Chair of Social and Economic History from 1964.



- TECHNOLOGY: 3D TELEVISION
- SCIENCE: BIRTH OF THE WORLD

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

# Pole-axed by pollen and air pollution

Hay fever is increasing even though less grass pollen is being produced. Pearce Wright explains how pollution heightens our vulnerability to the allergy

The first rites of spring began early this year for the scientists who monitor the pollen levels that can trigger hay fever and asthma. Three weeks earlier than usual, on January 28, the first grains from the hazel catkin were trapped in a permanent monitor operated on the roof of the Polytechnic of North London by its pollen research unit. The pollen season had begun.

Equally early, the first grains from the blossoming of the summer grasses were captured on April 1 by an instrument that will gather daily evidence until at least October.

Trends in pollen production and air pollution levels over southern England, analysed by a group working with Dr Jean Emberlin and Dr Richard Bryant, co-directors of the research unit, show a steady decline in the total grass pollen catches for almost 30 years.

Ten litres of air are sucked in every minute through a device that extracts pollen grains. The grains are held on a sticky strip of transparent film. The records in north London and elsewhere reveal a drop in the total June count from 4,700 grains in 1961 to 2,200 grains this year.

Dr Emberlin, an ecology lecturer, attributes the dramatic reduction to several changes in agriculture. In addition to the reduction of land put down to pasture, the key factor was the move from traditional haymaking to grass cutting for silage. Haymaking generates clouds of pollen but silage grass is cut in May before the main flowering period.

Curiously, as pollen levels have fallen, estimates of hay fever sufferers have risen from 3 per cent of the population to about 10 per cent. Although the increase covers all ages, most of the cases are in the 10-25 age group. Men are more susceptible than women and there is an inherited tendency.

Victims who suffer particularly severe distress occasionally appeal to Dr Emberlin's group for advice on the best place to live. Although she can tell them the South-east of England is the worst place, she can also identify relatively pollen-free places on the coast, particularly in

Wales and in the North-west. However, she says it is unrealistic to believe pollen can be escaped totally and advises caution for people who think they can escape the grains that plague them most at the time they are most concentrated by taking a holiday in the appropriate place.

Pollen victims in Britain know their symptoms are worst from May to August, but not all sufferers are allergic to the same pollens. Most people are uncertain of the precise ones that cause their runny nose and eyes, congested breathing, red weals and skin irritation. Consequently, Dr Emberlin's group has compiled a holiday-maker's peak pollen guide showing the places best avoided.

The advice includes such



Counting pollen grains at the poly: Jean Emberlin

hints as choosing resorts for onshore winds, usually west coast sites in Europe, which Dr Emberlin says generally mean lower pollen counts. Mountain resorts usually have low pollen counts, but sufferers should avoid alpine meadows. Remember that pollen peaks mid-morning and late afternoon.

Not surprisingly, grass pollen concentrations are higher in rural areas. But the victims of the piece are confined to the fertility messengers spread by only a dozen of more than 150 British grasses and herbs including cock's foot, timothy grass, meadow fescue, nettles, plantain and mugwort.

Similarly, the guilty trees can be narrowed down in Britain to birch, London

plane, oak and hazel, and elsewhere to the olive in the Mediterranean, pines in the Alps and cedars in Japan.

Jane Norris-Hill, a Janssen research assistant at the polytechnic and the scientist who identified the first pollens of the year, says the havoc caused by something so small is astonishing. Pollen grains are less than a thousandth of a millimetre in diameter.

Once they are stained with a lilac-coloured dye, their identity and origin are revealed under the microscope by their size, shape and markings. Miss Norris-Hill says that in London the counts for trees and grasses are generally 50 per cent lower than in rural areas of southern England. The highest daily average for grass pollen counts last year in London was 110 grains per cubic metre compared with 400 at Runnymede in Surrey, 166 at Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire and 440 on the Isle of Wight.

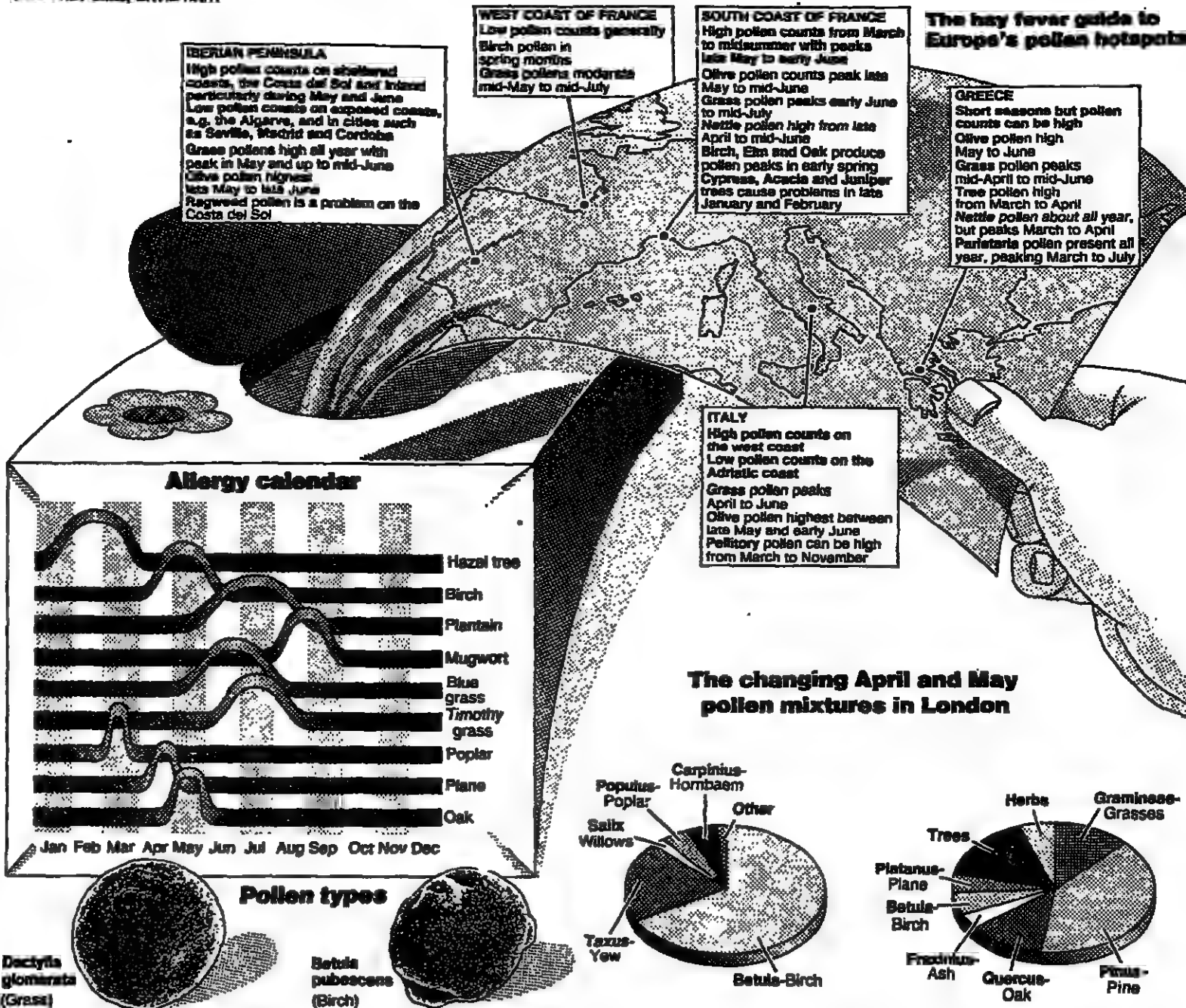
Pollen clouds carried on south-westerly winds tend to be bad news for Greater London compared with north-easterlies. Various levels of pollen trigger symptoms of hay fever in susceptible people. Most sensitive people have been stimulated by the time the count of pollen grains has reached 50 grains per cubic metre of air and have succumbed to the characteristic reactions.

Counts passed the 50-grain threshold on 19 days in London last year compared with 34 at Runnymede, 40 at Tewkesbury and 48 on the Isle of Wight.

So far in London this year the threshold has been crossed only nine times, which is attributed to a relatively wet and cooler June. Growth of grass was accelerated by the warm weather in April, the sunniest on record. Record pollen counts, therefore, would have seemed likely if a more typical pattern of drier weather had followed during late May and early June. Fortunately for sufferers, most of the grass pollens were washed out of the atmosphere.

Not all changes in agriculture crops have brought extra trouble for the hay fever sufferers. Concern has been raised over the possible impact of oil seed rape as an irritant — this now carpets

GEORGE SIMS/DAVID HART



great swathes of the countryside in yellow in early spring.

Dr Emberlin says the dispersal of the heavy pollen from rape is very localised as the plant is insect-pollinated. Hence, the effects for hay fever and asthma sufferers are probably restricted to rural communities. However, she regards the flowering of the crop a month earlier than usual this year as more clear evidence of the recent climatic change to milder winters and warmer springs, bringing an earlier start to the season.

She says it is uncertain whether a continuation of this trend will increase the total pollen "rain" or just cause a shift in the times of flowering. The average temperature during the first four months of this year was a remarkable three Centigrade degrees above the 30-year mean, sunshine hours were 11 per cent above average and rainfall 25 per cent above average.

In addition to the overall increase in hay fever cases, recent studies into the prevalence of the condition show that urban populations appear to be 10 times more vulnerable than rural ones.

peak pollen counts are broadly the same as those that produce the worst episodes of photochemical pollution, or smog. Ample evidence exists showing the rise in the concentrations of the chemical ingredients — nitrogen oxides, low-level ozone, sulphur dioxide, aerosol gases and unburnt hydrocarbon gases — that react under sunlight to produce smog.

A rise in those pollutants also coincides with a surge in hay fever and asthma. Seasonal peaks of ozone and nitrogen oxides and pollen coincided in London last year during a period of anticyclonic weather between June 17 and 26.

Although scientists understand how hay fever, or allergic rhinitis, is caused, they are

mystified why some people should react so violently to a seemingly innocuous agent or why sensitive individuals respond differently to various irritants according to the species of grass or tree from which they come.

The chain of events forming an allergic reaction occur when a group of cells called mast cells over-react and attack an otherwise harmless substance as if it was a threatening infection. Unfortunately, the process of battenning on to the pollen provides a biochemical trigger for the mast cells to discharge a flood of histamine, which causes inflammation of the nose and respiratory tract and the subsequent onset of hay fever or asthma symptoms.

Laboratory research at Tokyo University's medicine department has shown the

enhanced irritation of pollen grains contaminated by unburnt hydrocarbon gases from the exhaust of diesel engines. Other research has revealed that air polluted with nitrogen dioxide irritates the respiratory tract, making a person far more sensitive to a pollen-induced allergic reaction. Dr Emberlin says those and other findings carry important implications for air pollution regulations and transport policy.

Part of the continuing research in north and central London, which includes measuring pollen levels at 14 sites, involved monitoring pollen concentrations at heights of half a metre, 10 metres and 55 metres above the ground.

The results carry a message for people living or working in high-rise buildings because the mixture of grasses caught by

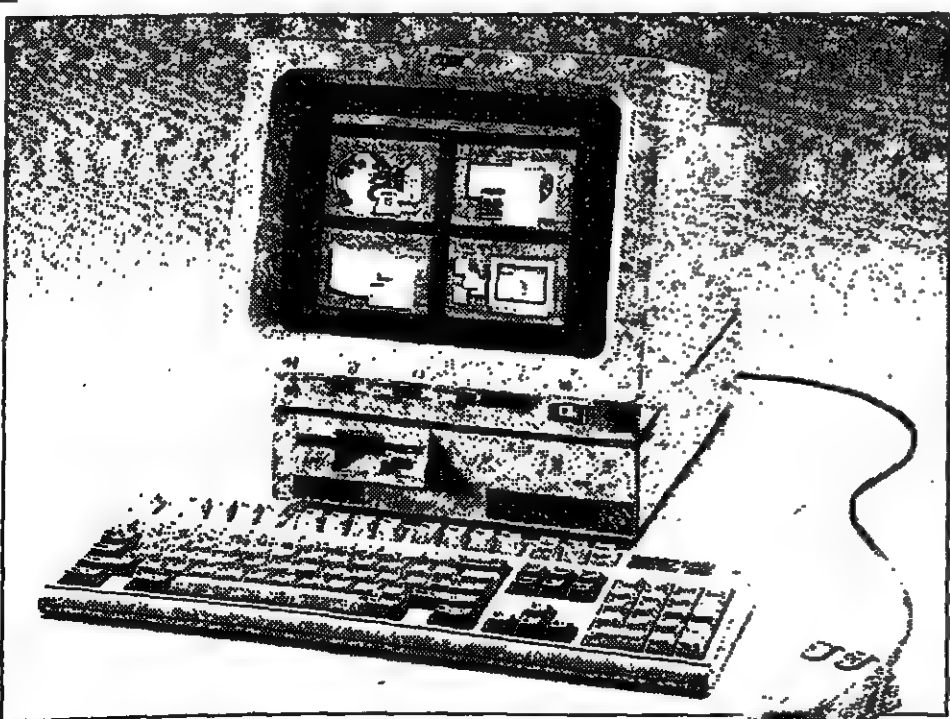
the sampling instruments were more plentiful at the higher levels.

Details of the research published by Dr Bryant and his colleagues in the journal *Aerobiologia* conclude that most of the high-level pollen grains had come great distances. Local tree and grass pollen was recorded predominantly at the low level.

Weather conditions strongly affected the relative differences in pollen concentrations between heights. Sunny days diminished the differences because of passive solar heating and consequent turbulent effects causing an air current that mixed pollens. Cool and overcast days produced the most marked discrepancies. Variations in the specific gravity of pollen grains appeared not to influence events.

## A cheap and easy second shot

Matthew May looks at the first home computer built by IBM in seven years



Compact unit: this PC is complete with modem and mouse

price and ease of use, a marketing strategy that includes graphically displayed unpacking instructions in a box that when opened even includes the manual turned to the correct page.

In a departure from IBM's usual practice with business customers, almost everything the home user will need

bar a printer, will come in a box. This includes a built-in modem so that the machine can connect into several computer networks, a mouse to

move the cursor around the screen and an extensive software package, Microsoft Works, that includes a word processor, a financial spreadsheet and a database manager. Such extras make the prices competitive when compared with buying rival computers and purchasing the additions separately.

The new computer is expandable, compatible with more powerful personal computers and comes with a traditional keyboard. Most of these items were missing from the PCjr, and the keyboard, nicknamed the chisel because of its shape, was not considered suitable for serious computing.

The computer uses an Intel 286 chip, similar to those introduced by IBM in its PC AT computer six years ago. Although slow in comparison with the chips now used in many business PCs, it should be adequate for most home

and small-business use. Customers in the US will be given a toll-free telephone number for assistance and access to two videotex services via the built-in modem. One reason for the staggered introduction is the limited availability of one of the videotex services, Prodigy, an electronic information service jointly operated by IBM and Sears. The computer will be sold through ordinary retail outlets, but initial sales are to be limited to just three regions, Minneapolis-St Paul, Chicago and Dallas-Fort Worth.

IBM UK does not know whether similar services will be available for users here when the machines are sold in Britain. But it says that as European needs are different from those in the States, it expects a British version will be slightly different and aimed at tradesmen, small home-based businesses, students and people taking work home.

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Chris Partridge describes how the principle of the Severn Bore lies behind the latest work in fibre optic research

# Riding on the crest of a canal wave

Next century's generation of fibre optic cable networks could be capable of delivering every book ever written in a matter of minutes due to an effect observed in a Scottish canal in 1834 by a man on horseback.

The key is a wave form called a soliton and engineers foresee a time when solitons, in the form of light waves travelling down glass fibres thinner than a spider's web, will be able to carry more than a million bits of data, known as a terabit, every second.

Now British Telecom is claiming a breakthrough in the race to produce equipment capable of spitting out solitons at terabit rates.

Researchers at BT's Martlesham Heath laboratories say they have built a laser out of a length of optical fibre which produces solitons at the right wavelength and duration to supply optical fibre networks easily and cheaply.

The laser is made by treating a 10-metre length of fibre, wound into a small drum, with atoms of the rare earth element erbium. It works in the same way as a gas laser, rather than the common semiconductor laser found in every compact disc player.

The soliton was first noticed by Scott Russell, a Victorian scientist and naval architect, as he rode beside a Scottish canal. He saw a wave running down the canal that not only followed the bends but showed no signs of ever fading away. He galloped after the wave for several miles.

Mr Russell discovered that the reason the wave never seemed to dissipate was because it was intense and closely constrained by the walls of the canal. The forces that caused it to spread out were exactly balanced by the forces holding it in, and as a result it would theoretically never disappear. The Severn Bore is a naturally generated example of a soliton.

The discovery remained an interesting scientific curiosity with no practical value until the invention of fibre optics.

Terabits represent a huge quantity of data; the entire contents of the British Library, 18 million books, could be sent down an optical fibre in less than a minute.



Laser research: Nick Doran, head of a group working on British Telecom's fibre optic breakthrough

According to Dr Nick Doran, the head of the group looking at soliton technology at BT, the erbium fibre soliton laser, developed by his colleague Dr Kevin Smith, will make soliton systems possible, with lasers the size of a large matchbox, and cheap. It could be the essential component that makes the system economically viable.

"It is like suspending a gas laser in glass," Dr Doran says. An electrical field triggers the laser effect, stimulating the production of high-energy pulses only three picoseconds long (three millionths of a

millionth of a second). Terabit technology will be used at first to carry telephone and data traffic over long distances, being capable of carrying all the current communications between North America and Europe on one optical fibre.

Eventually, it may be economically possible to take optical fibre into every home. The incredible speed of terabit technology will make it possible to order books, films, computer programs or games at the touch of a button, and have the purchase delivered almost instantaneously to a storage device.

The nature of television could change dramatically. Television is like a bookshop with only four books available at any time. Satellite television, cable and video have widened the choice, but what is on at any one time is limited.

If terabit technology becomes economically viable for domestic use, everyone could have almost instant access to just about all the books ever written, all the music ever recorded and all the films and television programmes ever made.

The soliton wave form does not disperse because when light is very

intense, the normal relationship between the wavelength and the refractive index of the glass begins to change, Dr Doran says. "The refractive index increases with intensity."

The result is that, when the intensity of the soliton goes down as it begins to disperse, the refractive index of the glass decreases and it is focused back into shape. It is a bit like getting the glass to automatically form itself into a lens and reform the soliton every time it looks like disappearing, but performing the reshaping in time rather than space.

Non-linearity is a key concept, and one that will be vitally important to the technology of the next century. Most of the mathematics used in engineering today is linear, based on simple relationships between cause and effect. Unfortunately, most of the universe obeys non-linear physical laws, with highly complex relationships that are difficult to discover and even more difficult to predict.

The advent of large computers has made it possible to draw out the most obscure interaction, and to predict what happens at extremes of pressure, intensity or temperatures when the normal, linear relationships begin to disappear and are replaced by non-linear physical laws.

Computer calculations indicate that solitons, although theoretically able to continue for ever, do tend to spread out as they travel through the optical fibre for hundreds of miles. At terabit data rates, the spread would tend to blur the solitons together, making the signal unreadable at the other end.

Dr Doran and his team are researching ways of sharpening the solitons by incorporating the new erbium soliton lasers in the optical fibre at suitable intervals to amplify the signals.

The development of laser amplifiers will eliminate the need for the complex regenerators in present transatlantic fibre optic cables, which take the optical signal, translate it into electronic form, amplify it, and translate it back into light. Solitons may be able to handle 20 million calls on one optical fibre.

## The secrets of the perfect interview

### JOBSCENE

Companies are being encouraged to improve their selection methods or they may be shunned by candidates who will be able to pick and choose employers because of the impending reduction in numbers of school leavers.

The Institute of Personnel Management (IPM) has published a code of practice, spelling out the minimum standards which companies should meet when recruiting. Paula Grayson, who chairs the IPM's recruitment working party, says 1990 is the year to look ahead "to a future where employers plead with employees to join the firm through a fair, but highly selective, recruitment process".

The code has focused on the poor quality of interviewing techniques as one area that needs immediate attention.

Companies often hire their information technology staff, for example, solely on the basis of a curriculum vitae, followed up by one or more informal meetings. Yet this method is rated as almost worthless for predicting the suitability of candidates, the IPM says.

"Evidence indicates that the one-to-one interview, while an obvious way to discover mutual likes and dislikes, carries a prediction factor of 0.1 for future success in the job," the authors of the code say.

There is also research which says that interviewers make up their minds about candidates within the first four minutes of meeting, and are rarely swayed from this point of view during the rest of the interview. Managers also tend to rate males higher than females, and favour attractive candidates and those who are married.

The Institute of Manpower Studies says a more reliable guide to the future performance of the candidate can be made by basing the interview on a job specification and the skills needed to perform the job satisfactorily, rather than on discussing the interviewee's former jobs.

Some of the large informa-

tion technology companies have adopted more objective methods of evaluating staff and are using psychometric tests and assessment centres.

Assessment centres are mostly used when a large number of staff are being hired at the same time, during the graduate milk round, for example. ICL puts all graduate applicants through a programme before making a decision. These programmes may take a day or weekend and include interviews, role playing, group activities and psychometric tests.

Candidates also need to improve their presentation skills. Recruitment agencies for information technology staff frequently complain that CVs are generally poor and that many job candidates turn up for interviews dressed inappropriately and conduct the interview unprofessionally.

"Many of the CVs we see are too abysmal for words and they just get thrown in the bin. We get a single page with a few statements of fact," Robbie Cookman, recruitment manager for STC, says.

The most important factor often overlooked by candidates is that the CV is used to filter out unsuitable candidates. This produces a dilemma for applicants with items on their CVs which may raise negative points in an interview.

"Bad points are a difficult issue. But applicants should always state why they left a job, whether for money or career advancement. We also want to see their interests and achievements," Mr Cookman says.

One recruitment consultant warns staff to choose their statements carefully. "Some of the hobbies people put in their CVs are quite bizarre. We have to take them out, otherwise they do themselves so much harm. One person put down that he was especially good at extremely frank confrontations with senior management."

LESLIE TILLEY

AN automatic weather reporting system which taps into the instruments of a British Airways jet before relaying climate details to weather centres around the globe is being tested on flights between London and Bombay.

The system, which has been developed for the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) by Marconi Space Systems in Portsmouth, offers weather forecasts and sci-

## On top of the weather

entists fast, frequent and accurate information on the climate of the upper air regions for the first time.

The system, called Aircraft to Satellite Data Relay (Asdar), has been developed to try to improve air safety, but it may also give scientists

studying global warming a fresh source of readings on how the weather might be changing.

Readings of upper air temperatures, currently made manually by aircraft personnel, are subject to errors and delays. Other readings come

from high-flying balloons which are expensive and can cover only a handful of locations at a time.

With Asdar, data including wind speed, wind direction, temperature, turbulence and altitude, can be taken by the plane's instruments every

seven minutes and beamed hourly to one of a chain of meteorological satellites operated by the WMO's World Weather Watch.

This information is sent to

ground stations run by Eumetsat (European Meteorological Satellite) before being relayed to national weather forecasting centres.

NICK NUTTALL

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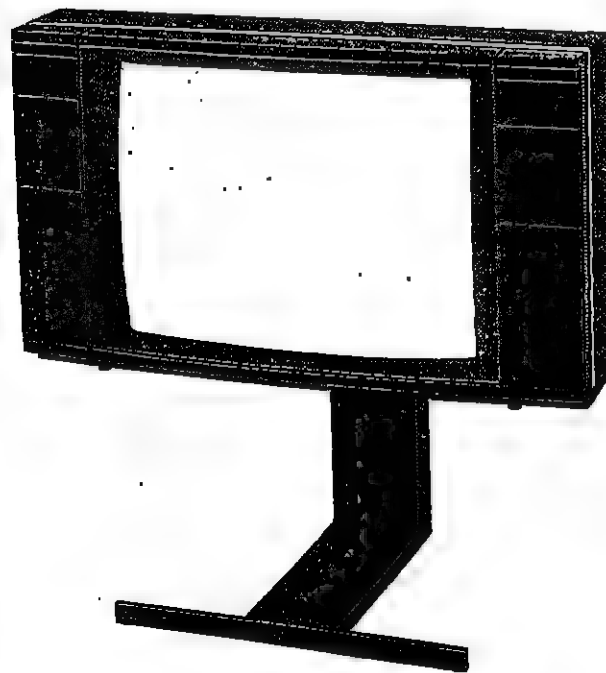
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## Diet food and drugs warning

DETECTIVE work by epidemiologists in Britain and the United States led the health department in London this week to impose a ban on a food supplement linked to at least 22 deaths in America (Thomson Prentice writes).

The supplement is tryptophan, an essential amino acid which has been sold by health food stores and chemist shops in tablet form as a folk remedy for insomnia, premenstrual tension, stress and depression. It is also an ingredient of prescription-only antidepressants, which have been withdrawn by their manufacturers on government advice.

Researchers in the United States have found that tryptophan as a supplement is closely connected to outbreaks of a rare blood disorder called eosinophilia myalgia syndrome, or EMS. More than 1,500 cases of the illness have been documented. It causes potentially fatal nerve and muscle damage, as well as skin rashes and flu-like symptoms.

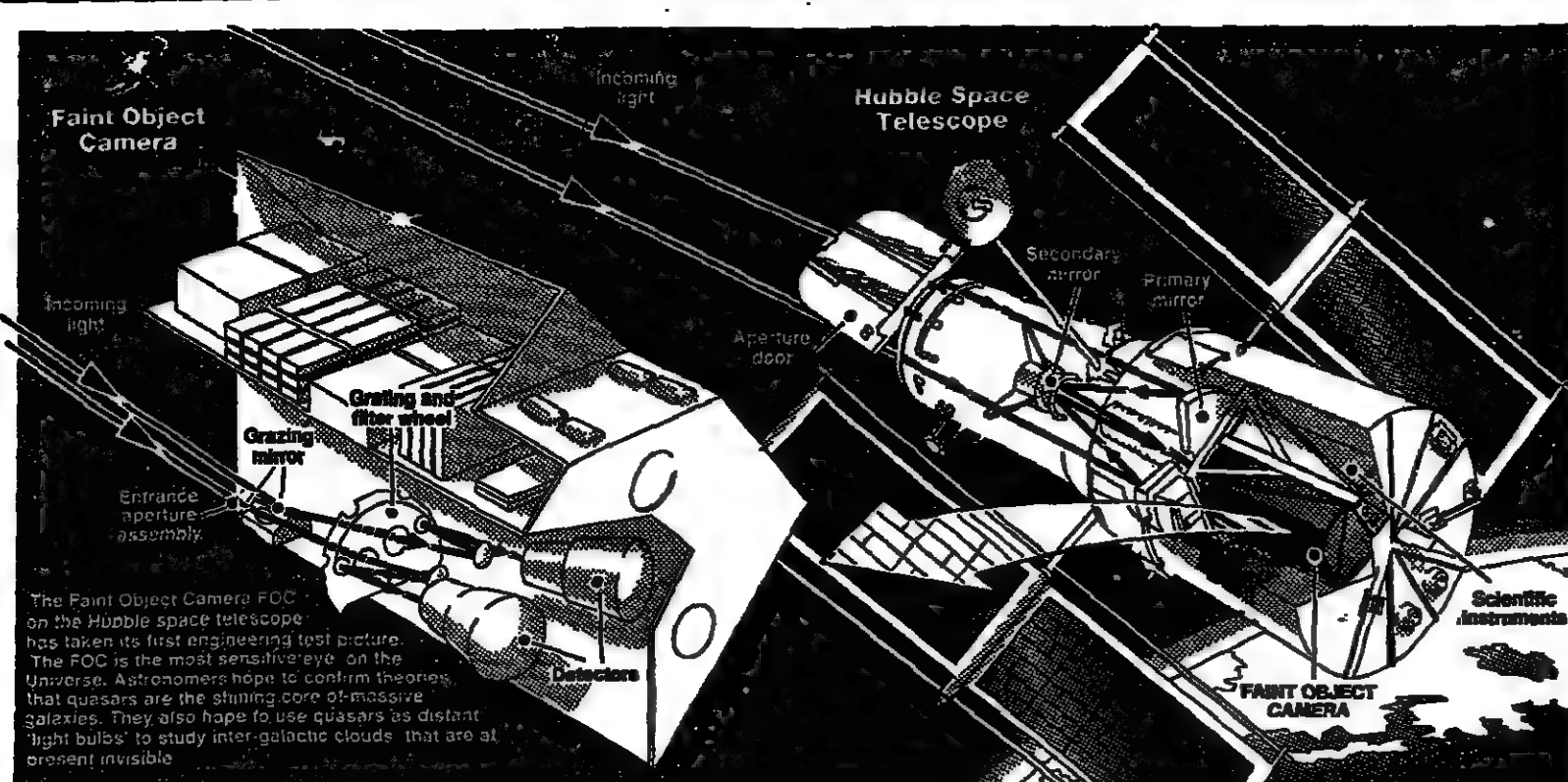
Seven cases of the condition have been reported in Britain, including three Americans who had used the tablets.

Investigations by epidemiologists at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia, showed that virtually all the sufferers had been taking tryptophan products imported from Japan.

Health authorities in America alerted their British counterparts who, in November, issued a warning that people should stop taking any dietary supplements containing tryptophan as the sole or major ingredient, unless prescribed by a doctor.

The name "L-tryptophan" or "DL-tryptophan" usually features on the labels. In January, France banned sales of the supplement, and in March, the US Food and Drug Administration recalled products containing the supplement.

Louis Sullivan, the US government's health and human services secretary, warned that it could be fatal. "We are confronted with a major public health problem," he says. Tryptophan was causing deaths and long-term illness with some patients failing to respond to treatment. "I urge everyone to stop taking these supplements immediately."



The Faint Object Camera FOC on the Hubble space telescope has taken its first engineering test picture. The FOC is the most sensitive eye on the Universe. Astronomers hope to confirm theories that quasars are the shining core of massive galaxies. They also hope to use quasars as distant light bulbs to study inter-galactic clouds that are at present invisible.

## World's birth on camera

High hopes rest on a British invention that is at the centre of efforts to reconstruct the first days of the Universe. The instrument is the Faint Object Camera (FOC), aboard the \$2 billion (£1.17 billion) Hubble space telescope, launched from the space shuttle in April.

The FOC detects individual photons of light, recording the position of each one and reconstructing the image digitally. It will be able to probe extremely faint galaxies thousands of millions of light years away.

Light from these sources started its journey when the universe was relatively young, so scientists hope it will reveal what the universe was like in early times.

FOC images from the most distant galaxies could help answer the most perplexing cosmological question of the moment: how matter in a smooth, featureless universe a few million years after the Big Bang coalesced into distinct "blobs" that became stars and galaxies. No object is too faint or distant for scrutiny by the FOC.

"We need only ten photons to say something is there," says Dr Peter Jakobson, FOC project leader at the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, Maryland.

The instrument, described by Dr Jakobson as "an English heritage", is the brainchild of Professor Alec Boslough, director of the Royal Greenwich Observatory.

Professor Boslough's digital imaging technology first found a place in ground-based observatories, but in the early 1970s he began working with the

European Space Agency on a detector specifically for the space telescope. The result is a powerful instrument that is versatile enough to "cover the whole range of astronomy", Professor Boslough says.

Apart from straining to see the most remote galaxies, Dr Jakobson promises "a tremendous programme" for the FOC. One topic of interest is the structure of quasars, mysterious objects that pack the energy of all the stars in a galaxy into a region little bigger than that of our solar system. This energy may come from black holes buried in the centres of the quasars.

The FOC will be sensitive enough to see whether quasars are the bright, active, central regions of otherwise faint galaxies. The instrument can also double as an ultraviolet (UV) camera and spectrograph which will enable researchers to work out the temperature and chemistry of distant stars and planets in a region of the spectrum that, because of the ultra-violet-absorbent ozone layer, cannot be monitored from the ground.

The spectrograph works in two dimensions to build up temperature and chemistry "maps" of galaxies in unprecedented detail. Dr Jakobson finds the UV aspect the most exciting part of the FOC. He looks forward to studying the synthesis of elements in the early universe as well as the chemistry of planetary atmospheres in the Earth's solar system.

However, what will most excite public interest will be the search for planets around stars other than Earth's sun. There is already a wealth of circumstantial evidence that these planets exist, but no direct confirmation. Unlike the work to be done on quasars and distant galaxies, the planetary search is one of fulfilling expectations rather than breaking new ground.

Professor Boslough gives an emphatic "yes" to the question of whether the space telescope will have confirmed the existence of extra solar planets by the end of its useful life, in about 15 years.

Apart from the European FOC, the telescope has an array of detectors that "opens all the tools of the astronomer", Dr Jakobson says. A high-speed photometer can measure changes in brightness as brief as 20 millionths of a second, and there are two spectro-

graphs, one devoted to UV light. At the heart of the system is the wide-field planetary camera. This has already demonstrated its formidable power by taking pictures of stars of far finer quality than is possible from the ground. The FOC complements the wide-field camera by taking immensely detailed pictures of small areas with a definition equivalent to a focal ratio of up to F28.

Even the space telescope's guidance system has been pressed into scientific service. When the telescope singles out an object for study, a set of three fine-guidance sensors lock on to nearby stars to keep the field of view perfectly steady. The sensors are capable of detecting tiny variations in the movement of the guide stars — the sort of motion that betrays unseen stellar companions, such as planets, which have a gravitational influence on the parent star.

Variation such as this has already been detected using ground-based telescopes. For example, the periodic wobble of a faint nearby star called Barnard's Star, six light years away, is thought to be evidence of a very large planet orbiting the star.

The space telescope's accurate sensors should be able to detect much smaller variations, perhaps small enough to reveal the presence of Earth-sized planets.

Given the enormous potential of the project, Dr Jakobson is relieved that everything seems to be working as it should. "It is fantastic," he says. "There were so many things that could have gone wrong."

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## Samurai secrets

THE RIDDLE of how Japanese smiths, from as far back as the eighth century, fashioned the legendary, super-strong swords of the fearsome Samurai may have been solved. Modern metal experts, who have been strain-testing 16th and 17th-century Japanese weapons, believe the way Samurai blades made them gracefully curved, but also extremely strong. New studies, by metal scientists at the University of Nebraska, in Lincoln, indicate that the cooling or quenching techniques employed by the smiths may be the clue to the riddle. By surrounding the sword with clay, leaving all but the cutting edge exposed to the air, the smiths could heat and cool the cutting edge faster than other areas of the blade, says William Weiss, a metallurgist at the university.

China on line CHINA is planning to have three telephones per hundred people by the year 2000, triple the current number. Under a ten-year plan, the government hopes to have more than 30 million telephones for its 1.1 billion population. For big cities such as Peking, Shanghai and Guangzhou, the number of phone lines will increase by 25 per cent in ten years. Song Zhiyuan, vice-minister of posts and telecommunications, says China is experimenting with integrated-service technology which uses a single network for telephone, telegram, telex, facsimile and computer data transmission.

Aids risk to nurses NURSES and surgeons working in the operating theatre at the San Francisco General Hospital in California, run a risk that, on average, one of them will contract Aids every eight years, according to researchers who studied surgical procedures there. The hospital serves a population that runs a very high risk of Aids. Other hospitals where the viral infection is less common have an occupational risk in operating

rooms of about one infection every 80 years. The study, which was done by the hospital and published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, says that even if doctors strongly suspect that their patients are infected with Aids and practise standard infection control, there is the same likelihood of exposure to the patients' blood.

Dirty ad campaign TWO companies, Rhone-Poulenc of France and Henkel of West Germany, were last week ordered by a French court of appeal to stop contentious advertising of phosphates in washing powders. The court said that both companies must cease using adverts based on the relative merits of phosphates in detergents. Henkel was ordered, on pain of a 50,000-franc fine, to halt an advertising campaign for its Le Chat brand, marketed in France, which claims that the phosphate-free detergent contributed to a better environment. Rhone-Poulenc has already withdrawn its adverts promoting phosphates in detergent, but was ordered to pay Henkel France three million francs in damages and interest. The court said Henkel's excessive claims were no excuse for the exasperated response of Rhone-Poulenc, citing an advertising campaign which portrayed dead fish, apparently the victims of phosphate-free detergent.

War on rabbits THE SOUTH Australian government plans to import Spanish fleas in an attempt to infect rabbits with myxomatosis and thereby reduce a pest that has caused serious damage to crops for years. Tens of millions of rabbits destroy nearly 50 million worth of crops, trees and seedlings a year, according to John Bailey, a senior advisor to the Animal and Plant Control Commission in Adelaide. Discovered in Uruguay in 1896 and deliberately introduced to Australia in 1950, myxomatosis attacks the mucous membranes, leaving rabbits blind and gasping for breath. The Spanish flea, *Xenopsylla cheopis*, has been selected to spread a new strain of myxomatosis because it can survive in the arid regions of north-east South Australia, where rabbits do the most damage.

Matthew May

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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Bobby Robson could yet jump on the bandwagon of World Cup creativity by putting his workhorses out to grass

# England left to accomplish their evolution

**Bologna** WHEN England played the Republic of Ireland in the first round of the World Cup finals, the ball was in play for 47 of the 90 minutes. Alfredo Di Stefano observed that, for 40 of the 47 minutes, the ball was in the air, and that when it came down it was moist with rain. "The ball was crying," he reflected on a match that attracted widespread disapproval.

As the competition approaches the quarter-final stage, with the imaginative teams too often losing to allegedly inferior ones, neither the pundits nor neutral spectators can quite make up their minds whether England are a good team or a poor team. In Italy, England now rate third favourites behind the hosts and West Germany, and ahead of Yugoslavia and Argentina, who are joint fourth, Cameroon, Czechoslovakia and Ireland. The two remaining truly imaginative sides, following the



DAVID MILLER  
ON THE WORLD CUP

elimination of Brazil, Netherlands, Uruguay, Colombia, Romania and Belgium, are Italy and Yugoslavia. These two have the creative ability to do things quite unexpected until the moment they happen: Donadoni and Giannini for Italy, Stojkovic, Susic and Jozic for Yugoslavia.

Among leading coaches, there is doubt about which was the better team in second-round matches only in the instance of England against Belgium. "It was a smart move by England to play with a sweeper and six players in midfield behind Lineker," Ivan Osim, the Yugoslavia team manager, said yesterday. "There was no other way they would have beaten Belgium."

In his opinion, the problem for creative teams in several instances is that they are burning out in the first hour or so in the intense heat, especially in the afternoon matches — such as Brazil (against Argentina) and Romania (against Ireland) — and the patient, physically stronger teams, have prospered. "Because even the inferior teams are well organised, the better teams are increasingly scared of making a single error, like Brazil," Osim said.

Both he and Yugoslavia's general manager, Miljan Miljanic, are convinced that English football has not lost its way, in spite of foreign criticism and the continuing absence from European club competition. "I would be delighted to work with English players because of their qualities of level temperament and physical determination," Osim said as Yugoslavia rested, after victory against Spain, in preparation for their quarter-final with Argentina in

Florence. "I'm not surprised by what Ardiles did with Swindon. The problem with English players is that they try to do everything, too fast and forget about the ball." Miljanic believes that, in one sense, the international game has improved. Because of multiple inter-national club transfers and coach movement, there is now no single stereotyped football. Even England have adapted to using a sweeper, belatedly. "And look at Italy," Miljanic said. "Their cautious, defensive attitude has lessened, they have become positive from the start, and that is partly because of foreign influences. The changes, all round, are in the head. There is a greater, more widespread maturity in the game."

But Miljanic, who was successful at both club level, home and abroad, and in the World Cup, warns that FIFA must be even more vigilant to protect the arts of the game. "Football became famous because of its fantasy, because it was not work," he said. "Now, more and more, it is only hard work. FIFA's attention must be concentrated even more on referees, who at the moment represent the least developed aspect of modern football. The skills of teams like Brazil must be supported and protected."

"Football has to decide whether to continue with the destructive elements, or whether to try to get back to the concepts that playing really is more important than winning. You cannot ask a player like Barnes or Waddle to run like a workhorse in midfield. They did not belong on the pitch in the England-Ireland match."

He and Miljanic echo the view, and my criticism of England, that full backs in the traditional mould have no place in the contemporary game. Players like Pearce have been out of date for 20 years, in Miljanic's opinion.

"Those two positions should now be occupied by two of the

most constructive players in the team, such as Brehme (West Germany) and Jorginho (Brazil)," Osim said. "They have to be able to fulfil three roles: defence, midfield and attack."

Bobby Robson rightly complained, after the Ireland match, that the development of English players was restricted by absence from European competition; yet his development as a national manager seems also to have remained blinkered, because adaptation to the sweeper system, with two man-for-man defensive markers, could have given England a more sophisticated approach from the time he took charge eight years ago.

Nevertheless, England stand within reach of the semi-finals in their next match, against a Cameroon team missing four of its best players through suspension. A formation on which the players can rely, and which gives them confidence, is in place.

The missing ingredient is a genuine left-sided player in midfield to replace Pearce who, whatever his defensive strengths, is one of those most responsible for earning England disrespect for their lack of imagination. A possibility would be to play both McMahon and Platt; but that is probably another evolutionary step that would be too much for the manager to take.

It would, however, increase England's vision going forward, and would leave Barnes or Waddle free to support Lineker. At present, too much is expected from Gascoigne in attack, and from Barnes and Waddle in defence. If these confusions of responsibility were resolved, England might reach the final. A semi-final against West Germany would not be insuperable; they, too, lack ingenuity in midfield for all their drive. But oh, how England need the touch of a Peters or a Brookings on the left side.

## Facing up to a Florentine free-for-all



## Football's fiery foreign legion

FROM KEN SHULMAN  
IN FLORENCE

FLORENTINE costume football is rugged enough to make rugby look like badminton. Tackles at the throat. Headbutts. Goatsmen hurling themselves first, aiming for the heads of attackers about to throw, kick, push, knee or dive the ball into the goal. Bravos involving 30 or 40 players which can last up to 20 minutes.

"This is not unbridled violence," Cesare Morandi, black belt in karate and former goalkeeper for the Verdi (The Greens), of San Giovanni, said. "It is simply a violent game. Those people who choose to play it know what awaits them."

The rules (or lack of) of Florentine costume football are quite simple. Played in sides of 27 on a sand-covered field, the length of which must be exactly twice its width, players can run with the ball or use any part of their body to kick or pass forward, back-

ward or laterally. The match lasts 30 minutes. Points are scored by throwing the ball into a net known as the *caccia*, which spans the entire end line and is one to 1.8 metres in height. Half-points are awarded to attacking teams when an opposing goalkeeper deflects a shot over the *caccia*. The defending team receives a half-point when an attacker's shot sails untouched into the crowd.

There is nothing in the rulebook about the fights. Then again, there is nothing in the rulebook describing the elaborate sixteenth century procession which precedes the yearly matches and which has become as integral a part of the sport as the fighting.

"Costume footballers are

more or less the foreign legion of Florence," Morandi said. "Boxers, rugby players, people who have just got out of jail a day or so before the match or people who will be jailed a few days after."

Until about ten years ago, the players' natural aggression was augmented with amphetamines, cocaine or other stimulants which were freely distributed in the dressing-rooms.

"And then there were the drugs," Morandi said. "Beating slowly, always louder, as you march with the procession through the city to the playing field. By the time the Grand Master gives the order to clear the field, you've got 54 men who feel like lions on a chain."

Historically, the game has

its origins in the first and second centuries AD, when legionnaires and soldiers in the Roman colony of Florentia played a ball game known as *Arpastum* on a sand-covered field as part of their military training.

The most famous Florentine football match, and the one which is re-enacted every year on the June 24 feast of Florence's patron saint, John the Baptist, was played on February 17, 1530.

On that date, while the city was besieged by the imperial troops of Charles V of Spain, the Florentines mocked their enemies by climbing down from the ramparts to play a match of football.

Last Sunday's final in Piazza Santa Croce was little more than an exhibition. With the eyes of the world on Italy because of the World Cup, Florence's city authorities did not want to risk the embarrassment of an all-out brawl similar to the one which broke out last year between the Bianchi (The Whites), of San Giovanni, and the Verdi.

## Pope offers best wishes to Irish

FROM CLIVE WHITE IN ROME

THE Republic of Ireland, who are due to play Italy in a World Cup quarter-final here on Saturday, were granted an audience with Pope John Paul II yesterday in Vatican City on a day of rest from football.

The Pope, who wished the team good luck, was presented with a signed football and a jersey from Mick McCarthy, the team's captain, and introduced to members of the Irish party by Father Anthony Farquhar, an auxiliary bishop from Belfast.

The players, dressed in tracksuits, were seated in the front row of the Sala Nervi at an audience of about 7,000 people including those on a pilgrimage from Dublin. During the vice, which lasted two hours, the Pope read scriptures in German, French, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish and English. He said: "I greet members of the Irish football team." During a brief word with Pat Bonner, he informed the Ireland

and Celtic player that he, too, was once a *portiere*, a goalkeeper.

"It was a fantastic moment," Bonner said. "One of the great things of my life. It was a tremendous lift before the game and shake his hand. It's a privilege, you don't normally get that close to him."

Charlton, who was granted an audience with the Pope during the World Cup draw here in December with his assistant, Maurice Setters said: "I thoroughly enjoyed it. I've been before but the players haven't. He's not as big as I'd thought he'd be. He looks bigger on the telly. He looked very tired today. He's a big man, it's very difficult for the man when you dedicate your life to the game every minute of the day. The lads are all Catholic and this is a big day in their lives." Charlton, who is a Protestant, added that the Pope had wished them good luck.

The team was taken on a tour of the Sistine Chapel and saw the frescoes of Michelangelo. The big game for Ireland is two days away. The players must be hoping that Aldridge and Staunton will recover from injuries received against Romania. Staunton is optimistic of recovering from his hamstring strain, Aldridge less so from an Achilles tendon injury.

## Cup hooliganism on subcontinent

THE biggest riot of the World Cup took place yesterday in India. Hundreds of football supporters in Calcutta attacked power department officials and demanded the state government's resignation after electricity cuts wiped the action off television screens.

"This government has failed totally. They cannot provide us with security, law and order, water. Now even the World Cup has been denied us. They should resign immediately," Manna Banerjee, of the opposition Congress party, said.

She led an assault by several hundred people on the headquarters of West Bengal's Marxist state government. Another 500 people hailed officials out of power department offices, spitting on them and beating them. The power ministry officials, predictably, had their capes well prepared to deal with the crisis on the World Cup — and on the neighbouring state of Bihar. They said Bihar asked for a small power transfer, five megawatts, from West Bengal to keep their football supporters happy. Bihar then drew 160 megawatts, tripping the grid and blacking out television screens in both states.

## To be unsure

IRELAND'S minister for sport, Frank Fahey, flew to Rome yesterday to ask FIFA, football's governing body, to give Irish supporters another 15,000 tickets for the quarter-final against

## WORLD CUP NOTEBOOK

Italy in the Olympic Stadium in Rome. The Irish, apparently, had shown insufficient confidence to buy enough tickets in advance.

**Slap happy**  
GNATS are expected to make life uncomfortable for those Irish supporters who do manage to acquire a precious ticket. The blood-thirsty insects swarmed over the stadium during Italy's match with Uruguay.

Ciro Ferrara, the Italian defender, said the crowd's efforts to ward off the pest were obvious to players on the field. "At one point, I turned around to see the VIP stand and I saw all the people trying to slap the gnats," he said.

## Postal disorder

THE Dutch post office were left taking their wounds when the Netherlands were beaten by West Germany. It had already printed the first one million stamps of a special 16-million issue to commemorate a Dutch victory in the competition. The million already prepared and printed, with the inscription "Netherlands World Champions 1990" have been delivered straight to the furnace.

A case of jumping the gun?

WALTER GAMMIE

## THE PATH TO THE FINAL

SECOND ROUND		QUARTER-FINALS	
Sat June 24, Turin	BRAZIL 0 ARGENTINA 1 Argentina: Campese 60 Half-time: 0-0 At: 61,361	Sat June 30 (4pm) Florence	ARGENTINA YUGOSLAVIA
Tue June 26, Verona	SPAIN 1 YUGOSLAVIA 2 Semi: 1-1 after 90 min Yugoslavia: Stojkovic 77, 82 Spain: Esteyne 82 Half-time: 0-0 At: 36,500	Sat June 30 (8pm) Rome	REP OF IRELAND ITALY
Mon June 25, Genoa	REP OF IRELAND 0 ROMANIA 0 Semi: 0-0, Ireland won 5-4 on penalties At: 31,918	Sat July 1 (4pm) Milan	CZECHOSLOVAKIA WEST GERMANY
Mon June 25, Rome	ITALY 2 URUGUAY 0 Semi: 2-0 after 90 min, 2-0 Half-time: 0-0 At: 73,303	Sun July 1 (8pm) Naples	CAMEROON ENGLAND
Sat June 23, Bari	CZECHOSLOVAKIA 4 COSTA RICA 1 Costa: Stahovsky 17, 22, 22 Goal: Costa: 55 Half-time: 1-0 At: 47,573	Sun July 1 (8pm) Naples	CAMEROON ENGLAND
Sun June 24, Milan	WEST GERMANY 2 NETHERLANDS 1 W Germany: Klarmann 50, Bruns 84 Netherlands: R. Koman (pen) 88 Half-time: 0-0 At: 74,500	Sun July 1 (8pm) Naples	CAMEROON ENGLAND
Sat June 23, Naples	CAMEROON 2 COLOMBIA 1 Semi: 0-0 after 90 min Cameroon: Milla 103, 109 Colombia: Pineda 115 At: 50,028	Sun July 1 (8pm) Naples	CAMEROON ENGLAND
Tue June 26, Bologna	ENGLAND 1 BELGIUM 0 Semi: 0-0 after 90 min England: Platt 115 At: 34,620	Sun July 1 (8pm) Naples	CAMEROON ENGLAND

## HOW THEY QUALIFIED

GROUP A	GROUP B	GROUP C
Italy Czechoslovakia Australia United States Results: Italy 1, Australia 0; United States 1, Czechoslovakia 1; Italy 2, Czechoslovakia 0; Australia 2, United States 1.	Cameroon Romania Argentina Soviet Union Results: Argentina 0, Cameroon 1; Romania 2, Soviet Union 0; Romania 1, Argentina 1; Romania 0, Soviet Union 0.	Brazil Costa Rica Sweden Scotland Results: Brazil 2, Sweden 1; Scotland 0, Costa Rica 1; Brazil 1, Costa Rica 0; Sweden 1, Scotland 1; Scotland 0, Brazil 1.
GROUP D	GROUP E	GROUP F
West Germany Yugoslavia Croatia UAE Results: United Arab Emirates 0, Colombia 2; West Germany 4, Yugoslavia 1; Yugoslavia 1, West Germany 1; Colombia 1, Yugoslavia 4; UAE 1.	Spain Belgium Uruguay South Korea Results: Belgium 2, South Korea 0; Uruguay 0, Spain 0; Belgium 3, South Korea 1; Spain 3, Belgium 1; Spain 2, Uruguay 1; South Korea 0.	England Republic of Ireland Netherlands Egypt Results: England 1, Republic of Ireland 1; Netherlands 1, Egypt 0; England 1, Egypt 0; Netherlands 1, Republic of Ireland 1.

## MATCH FACTS

Result 1-2	SPAIN	YUGOSLAVIA	Result 1-0	ENGLAND	BELGIUM
Total shots	19	12	Total shots	13	15
On target	8	6	On target	7	4
Lost possession	73	82	Lost possession	79	88
Corners	16	1	Corners	5	8
Crosses from right	21	13	Crosses from right	21	12
Crosses from left	14	17	Crosses from left	12	9
Fouls	33	20	Fouls	12	20
Offside	4	2	Offside	8	2
Cautions	2	3	Cautions	1	0
Sendings-off	0	0	Sendings-off	0	0

Result 0-0	REP OF IRE	ROMANIA	Result 2-0	ITALY	URUGUAY
Total shots	14	18	Total shots	9	8
On target	5	6	On target	7	6
Lost possession	57	60	Lost possession	68	66
Corners	4	9	Corners	3	3
Crosses from right	20	6	Crosses from right	8	5
Crosses from left	6	10	Crosses from left	5	1
Fouls	27	18	Fouls	22	28
Offside	2	4	Offside	4	1
Cautions	2	2	Cautions	1	4
Sendings-off	0	0	Sendings-off	0	0

**OTHER STATISTICS:**  
SPAIN: Shots: 5 Fernandez, Martin Vazquez; 3 Salinas; 2 Butragueno; 1 Gortiz, Michel, Paz, Villaverde. Fouls committed: 5 Chendo, Villarreal, Gortiz, Villaverde; 4 Sanchez, Salinas; 2 Chendo, Jimenez; 1 Michel, Castanos; Chendo, Fernandez. Fouls sustained: 4 Butragueno, Salinas; 3 Martin Vazquez, Michel; 2 Fernandez; 1 Chendo, Jimenez, Paz, Sanchez.

YUGOSLAVIA: Shots: 2 Stojkovic, Stojkovic, Susic; 1 Brnovic, Jozic, Katanec, Panov. Fouls committed: 5 Sabanadzovic; 4 Stojkovic, Brnovic, Jozic, Katanec, Susic; 3 Stojkovic, Brnovic, Katanec, Panov, Vukovic. Fouls sustained: 6 Stojkovic; 5 Vukovic; 4 Sabanadzovic, Stojkovic, Susic; 3 Katanec, Stojkovic; 2 Jozic; 1 Brnovic, Panov.

**OTHER STATISTICS:**  
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: Shots: 3 Casanova, Sheedy; 2 Quinn, Staunton, Townsend; 1 Houghton, McGrath. Fouls committed: 7 McCarthy; 6 Quinn; 5 McGrath, Sheedy; 2 Quinn, Staunton; 1 Aldridge, Casanova, Moran, Townsend, Caulfield, McGrath, McGrath. Fouls sustained: 3 McGrath, Moran, Quinn; 2 Townsend; 1 Aldridge, Casanova, Houghton, Moran, Quinn, Sheedy.

ROMANIA: Shots: 10 Hagi; 2 Balint, Raducioiu; 1 Andone, Olaru, Roman, Sotoca. Fouls committed: 3 Hagi, Lupescu; 2 Andone, Raducioiu, Theodor; 1 Olaru, Popescu, Raducioiu, Rotaru, Sabau, Cautanos; Hagi, Lupu. Fouls sustained: 8 Hagi; 4 Raducioiu; 3 Popescu; 2 Andone, Sabau; 1 Lupu, Lupescu, Lupu, Raducioiu, Rotaru.

**OTHER STATISTICS:**  
ENGLAND: Shots: 3 Platt; 2 Barnes, Bull, Pearce, Waddle; 1 Parker, Wright. Fouls committed: 3 Barnes, Wright; 2 Gascoigne, Walker; 1 Bull, Parker, Caulfield, Gascoigne. Fouls sustained: 4 Parker, Waddle; 3 Gascoigne; 2 Pearce, Walker; 1 Barnes, Lineker, McMahon, Wright, BELGIUM: Shots: 4 Scholte; 3 Coulemans, Versavel; 2 Demol; 1 Claessen, Clajsters, Gerets. Fouls committed: 6 Scholte; 3 Claessen, van der Elst, Versavel; 1 Clajsters, Demol, Gerets, Grün, de Grijse. Fouls sustained: 2 Coulemans, Gerets, Scholte; 1 Claessen, Clajsters, de Grijse, Demol, van der Elst, Versavel.

**OTHER STATISTICS:**  
ITALY: Shots: 5 Schillaci; 2 De Agostini; 1 Ferri, Serena. Fouls committed: 4 Giannini; 3 De Agostini, Schillaci; 2 Bergomi, De Napoli, Ferri, Maldini, Sereni; 1 Baggio, Maldini, Bert, Cautanos; 1 Bergomi, Maldini, De Napoli, Sereni; 1 Baresi, Vialovich, Zenga.

URUGUAY: Shots: 3 Pardomo; 2 Gutierrez; 1 Fonseca, Francescoli, Pareira. Fouls committed: 5 Pardomo, Pareira, Pintos; 5 Francescoli; 4 Fonseca; 3 Gutierrez, Ostolaza; 1 Dominguez, Sosa, Castellanos, Alvarez, Gutierrez, Pintos, Pardomo. Fouls sustained: 4 Francescoli; 3 Fonseca; 2 Dominguez, Gutierrez, Pintos, Ostolaza, Pareira, Sosa; 1 Alvarez, De Leon.



Mr Justice Dubin's report declares that the root problem of drug abuse in sport is the lack of ethical and moral values

# Drugs enquiry criticises governing bodies

By JOHN GOODBODY

THE Commissioner of the drugs enquiry into the Ben Johnson affair has launched a strong attack on the governing bodies of international sport in his final report.

Mr Justice Charles Dubin has criticised the International Olympic Committee and the International Amateur Athletic Federation for failing to impose strict drug-testing procedures and for not investigating reports of drug taking.

The enquiry, which lasted 11 months and called 122 witnesses who gave evidence under oath, has been concluded with a series of recommendations in the 600-page report by Justice Dubin. He states that the "concern for appearance not substance" has



been a continuing theme in the evidence relating to the attitude of the world governing bodies.

He said: "The failure of many sports governing bodies to treat the drug problem more seriously and to take more effective means to detect and deter the use of drugs like anabolic steroids has also contributed in large measure to the extensive use of drugs by athletes. Added to the laxity of

enforcement has been a laxity of investigation.

"When an athlete was detected using performance-enhancing drugs only the athlete was disciplined and the incident was treated as an aberration. No enquiries were made about the circumstances under which the athlete took drugs and whether responsibility should also attach to coaches, physicians, or indeed to the athletic organisations themselves. Thus, no investigation was made into the true extent of the use of drugs and what influenced the athlete to use them."

Justice Dubin, whose enquiry brought Ben Johnson, the Canadian world record holder who was stripped of his Olympic 100 metres title after testing positive for anabolic steroids, to admit that he had taken drugs for seven years

antithesis of sport, but it is not the disease, only the symptom.

The report said: "The root problem is the lack of ethical and moral values. Ethical and moral questions have permeated all aspects of this enquiry and unethical and immoral behaviour has been apparent in many contexts. There is a moral crisis in sport. We are at the cross-roads and must decide whether the values that once defined the very meaning of sport still have meaning in a context of sport today."

Justice Dubin, whose enquiry brought Ben Johnson, the Canadian world record holder who was stripped of his Olympic 100 metres title after testing positive for anabolic steroids, to admit that he had taken drugs for seven years

before getting caught, is critical of the IOC.

He pointed out that the IOC has known for many years of the prevalence of drug use in Olympic sports. It also knew that testing at competition time was an inadequate method of detection and deterrence because competitors would stop taking the drugs a few weeks before the testing, give a clean sample of urine at the event, but still retain many of the benefits from taking hormone substances.

Justice Dubin said that Dr Manfred Donike, of West Germany, and Dr Robert Dugal, of Canada, two members of the IOC medical commission, had testified that they had known since before the introduction of testing for anabolic steroids at the 1976

Olympics that testing at competition was an ineffective means of detecting the use of such drugs.

The report continued: "Yet the appearance of clean and fair competition was maintained while those directly involved in sport knew that the reality was otherwise." Justice Dubin urged that the IOC "be more vigilant in order to ensure a level playing field".

Despite attempts to introduce out-of-competition spot testing as a deterrent against taking hormone drugs, the IOC has yet to get this effectively introduced.

Many of the same criticisms are made about IAAF. The report stated that it was unfortunate that the world governing body of the most prominent Olympic sport

had not used its influence in a more meaningful way to eradicate the drug problem in track and field.

"The posture of the IAAF appears to have been to react to the problem only after the fact." The report specified that in 1987 the congress of the IAAF had approved a rule that member organisations must include in their constitutions a clause requiring them to conduct out-of-competition testing and must support a report to the IAAF.

The IAAF was also given jurisdiction to conduct testing on its own. However, the report continued, few of the 184 members of the IAAF had an out-of-competition procedure in place in September 1988. "Thus the rule was never enforced."

## GOLF

## Faldo defends title in France after scare over career

From MITCHELL PLATT, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, CHANTILLY

NICK Faldo's career could have ended a month before his successful defence of the Masters in April if it had not been for the advice of a sports physiologist, he said yesterday as he prepared for the Peugeot French Open, which starts here today. So concerned was Faldo with the pain in his left arm that he had agreed to have a cortisone injection to relieve his suffering.

"If I had, it would have been the end of my career," Faldo said. "I would have carried on playing when really I should have been having treatment and because of there being no pain I would have separated the muscle from the ligament. That would have been the end of it. I would have been on the operating table."

What rescued Faldo was being introduced to Paul Ankers. He is a past European light-heavyweight judo champion and a silver medal winner in the 1984 Olympics. Ankers examined Faldo and he was disturbed by what he found. "The first words he said to me were: My god. You need to do some work on your arm," Faldo said.

The problem stems from Faldo's allegiance to the practice range. Few players in the game have been as diligent as

he when it comes to grooving his game. "I began to feel the pain from the left hand through to the left elbow," Faldo said. "But that was not the only problem. My body was stressed-up like a runner gets shin-splints."

Ankers has devised a training programme for Faldo, which he follows rigorously, except when he is tired, as he was during the United States Open.

"I have a lot of confidence in him," Faldo said. "I now do a series of body exercises every morning for 15 minutes and a further 20 minutes on the arms in the evening."

By coincidence, Ankers is based in Woking, which is where David Leadbetter, Faldo's coach, was born. Ankers advised Faldo to rest for two weeks following the US Open. He also administered infra-red treatment.

Faldo withdrew from the Carrolls Irish Open last week. However, the treatment has worked to the extent that Faldo is playing here, although under the explicit instruction to take it easy. "I am not toiling too hard on the range," Faldo said. "My main concern is that I am fully fit for the Open Championship at St Andrews next month."

Faldo has not won in Europe this season. He has been the French Open champion three times. Faldo won in 1988 with an eagle at the last hole and in 1989 with a birdie on the same hole, so compelling Hugh Baiocchi, Mark Roe and Bernhard Langer to share third place.

Langer has returned, but the late withdrawal of Severiano Ballesteros and José María Olazábal has left a taste in the mouths of the sponsors, as have the actions of vandals who caused damage to the 6th, 8th and 11th greens. But for a downpour during the night the greengroomer and his staff would have faced a tougher task repairing the greens.

More rain during the program yesterday has further softened the course, which will help Faldo. He will not want to aggravate his hand and arm condition.

A victory would also help him to put the loss of the US Open out of his mind. "All I could think of when the putt missed on the 18th was that I had failed," Faldo said. "The ball seemed to bobble and lose its forward momentum no more than one foot from the hole. Sure, I was disappointed."

## De Lorenzi cursed by inconsistency

From PATRICIA DAVIES IN DÜSSELDORF

THE fact that Marie-Laure de Lorenzi is leading the Woolmark Order of Merit will surprise no one, but the French woman who has been the European No. 1 for the last two years has been displaying signs of inconsistency this season.

In the final round of the BMW European Masters last week, she returned a 79 that included ten bogeys, more than she usually has in one season, or so her customary flawlessness has made it seem. Today, in the first round of the BMW German Classic at Hühnerbach, she will want to relegate that score to a "believe it or not" and start the defence of her title in an appropriately grand manner.

She herself was not particularly optimistic, however. "My swing, my head, nothing is quite right," she said. "I'm fighting but not in the right way. I play good for ten holes and bad for eight. I miss one green 40 yards on the right, then I miss 20 yards on the left. My chip-in is bad and my putting is bad because there is a lot of pressure on them. It's a rhythm and confidence."

This was the last of the three tournaments de Lorenzi won in a row last season, to set a tour

record, before marital and wrist problems disrupted the rhythm of her life and game. She has had one win this season and a second place but three finishes outside the leading ten - including one outside the top 20 - have raised a few doubts about her form. Inconsistency, as you can see, is all relative for someone who has been outside the top 10 only twice last year.

If de Lorenzi does not find the second week, the Australian might be breaking open the tubes of amber nectar again - after the win by Karen Lunn last week. Her fellow-Australians, Denise Hutton and Corinne Hibbard, were second and third here last year, but Lunn, having rediscovered her form and confidence, could be BMW driver of the year, especially if she keeps her wheels on the ground on the test track the sponsors have invited the competitors to try out.

● Hale Irwin, the United States Open champion, will be playing in the Open Championship at St Andrews from July 19 to 22. Irwin finished runner-up to Tom Watson at Royal Birkdale in 1983 and would have tied had he not missed the ball completely trying to tap in a one-inch putt.

## Bunker is Kelsall's sole trap

By a CORRESPONDENT

KYLE Kelsall, from Dale Hill on the Kent-Sussex border, returned a three-under-par 68 to take the lead after the first round of the Tate Access Floors club professional championship at Stoke Poges, Bucks, yesterday.

David Regan, from West Byfleet, Surrey, who coached Kelsall, Britain's leading woman golfer, is poised in a group of four one shot behind. The field of 85 is reduced to 31 for today's final round.

Kelsall, aged 28, who spent three years at Pittwater as an assistant before moving to Dale Hill three months ago, had 34 putts in his three-birdie round. He dropped only one shot, when he found a precarious bunker on the short 16th and then missed from 15 feet.

LEADING FIRST ROUND SCORES: K. Kelsall (Dale Hill) 68; D. Regan (West Byfleet) 70; S. Porter (Northfleet) 71; A. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 72; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 73; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 74; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 75; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 76; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 77; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 78; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 79; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 80; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 81; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 82; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 83; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 84; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 85; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 86; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 87; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 88; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 89; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 90; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 91; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 92; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 93; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 94; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 95; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 96; J. Wainwright (West Byfleet) 97; J. 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Minor counties find the conditions against them as they are denied taste of glory in the NatWest Trophy first-round matches

## Brave Lincolnshire fall apart after a respectable start

By JOHN WOODCOCK

**GLOUCESTER** (Gloucestershire won toss): Gloucestershire beat Lincolnshire by 195 runs. TO HAVE their best chance of beating one of the 17 first-class counties, a minor county needs the help of a poor pitch. Yesterday, Lincolnshire went to Gloucester in the NatWest and found a good one, with the almost inevitable result. Winning the toss and batting first, Gloucestershire scored 325 for four from their 60 overs, to which Lincolnshire replied with 130.

Not until towards the end of Gloucestershire's innings did things become as one-sided as they sound. Lincolnshire were indebted to Higson, who took the first 20 overs of the match to make 19, for restricting Gloucestershire to 109 in 25 overs, even without their losing a wicket.

There was a tidy opening spell from French, who bowled his 12 overs in one stretch, and with Marshall

picking up a couple of wickets just before lunch with his left-arm round-arm slow, Lincolnshire had a reasonable morning. Without Wright's assertive 92 it would have been a good one.

In the end, though, they were worn down. Their fielding, which had been so good to begin with, fell away, and Marshall was driven for six by both Athey and Lloyds, and by the time Pont came back the ball was rocketing off the bat, especially Athey's. Of the unbroken 147 which Athey and Lloyds added for the fifth wicket, 94 came in the last 10 overs, so that Gloucestershire finished only two short of their best total in the competition (327 for seven against Berkshire at Reading). It was as well Lincolnshire conceded nothing like as many wickets and no balls as first-class sides habitually do.

Before play, the book-makers had laid Lincolnshire at even money with a start of

100 runs. If they were to have to pay out Love and Pont, Lincolnshire's two professionals, had to get going, and, in the event, they made two between them. Love played on to Walsh and Pont got a grubber from Graveney. With Mark Fell, who made a stack of runs for Lincolnshire last year, away on a police course, it was a question, therefore, of Lincolnshire avoiding a rout and thanks to Priestley and Gandon, who made 61 together, they just about managed it.

So long as Walsh was not bowling, these two found things much as they might have done in the Minor Counties championship. Priestley has a busy time of it with Lincolnshire, captaining them as well as keeping wicket and going in first. He bats left-handed in a slightly angular way, and obviously has the game in his bones. He was my man of the match; but Wright was Basil D'Oliveira's.

## Wednesday in the park with Asif Din

By JACK BAILEY

**ST ALBANS** (Hertfordshire won toss): Warwickshire beat Hertfordshire by 128 runs. THERE was David and Goliath act on view at Clarence Park, the admirably appointed home of St Albans Cricket Club. Warwickshire continue to have both hands firmly planted on the NatWest Trophy, although Hertfordshire by no means disgraced themselves, from first ball to last there was really only one side in the hunt.

It was probably inevitable that Hertfordshire should have fielded first upon winning the toss. It is the fashionable trend and it meant that they knew what their target would be. But when that target is as formidable as the 336 set by Warwickshire in the calm and pleasant conditions prevailing yesterday morning and early afternoon, with no great pressure put upon them, one wonders whether their best chance might not have been to seize the initiative and compile a total.

As it was, Warwickshire's first six batsmen all made runs at a lively rate, with Asif Din's 66 leading the way. Then Din, with plenty of runs to play with, was able to bowl his leg spinners with no expense spared. He consequently took five wickets for 40 runs, removed the Hertfordshire middle order and saved himself the man of the match award.

Hertfordshire's man of the match was undoubtedly Andy Neesham, the former Surrey and Middlesex stalwart, who kept Warwickshire's batsmen as quiet as anybody could, bowling his first seven overs for 18 runs while Moles, Din, Moody, Hampshire and Co were laying about them. He then made a handsome 35.

Surridge also bowled well for Hertfordshire as did his Bishop's Stortford colleague, Tim Smith, but there was no stopping the Warwickshire juggernaut, for whom the irrepressible Moody hit three enormous sixes. They finished 336 in the next round. On current form, the question is: Who after that?

Derbyshire and Shropshire were about to take the field at Queens Park, Chesterfield, for a 10.30am start when embarrasing cricket realised there were no cricketers.

Players and umpires were forced to idle in the pavilion while match balls were rushed up to the M1 from Derbyshire's county headquarters in Derby, more than 20 miles away.

The game got under way after a 45-minute delay.

Derbyshire chief executive, who broke a wrist at the start of the season, is due to return to first-class cricket against New Zealand at Chelmsford on Saturday.

Hussain, aged 23, a former Durham University player, continues his comeback by playing for Essex second team against MCC at Leigh-on-Sea tomorrow.

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## Durham cruelly exposed

By STEPHEN THORPE

**OLD TRAFFORD** (Lancashire won toss): Lancashire beat Durham by eight wickets. THE game that Durham must bridge if they are to become a viable county concern was cruelly exposed as Lancashire prevailed by an overwhelming margin in the NatWest Trophy first round.

The TCCB decides in December whether Durham will become the newest first-class county since 1921. Despite grandiose schemes for a new purpose-built arena, and plans for attracting the requisite half a million pounds annual special sponsorship and entry into the championship proper in 1991, Neil Riddell, the captain, sensibly maintained that this match should not be seen as a barometer of their future playing strength.

Quite so, and especially since Lancashire are striving to recapture their own one-day glory, Durham were put in, and after an understandably cautious start against a stoutly-placed seam attack of international pedigree, sturdy contributions from Brown and Burns bailed them to 85 for two off 36 overs at lunch. Glendenen had pulled Allott gloriously for six and four before a yorker dismissed him, and middle order, but only Patel, undefeated on 31, managed any forcefulness later.

Gooch's attitude towards spinners may verge on paranoia, but Hughes, the Lancashire captain, has no such qualms. Atherton removed Burns, Durham's heavy scorer last year, when Akrum had a miscued steeper at mid-off, and Brown's long vigils ended when the Pakistanis trapped him for 42.

Allott, and Austin, then stifled the middle order as Durham subsided to 163 all out.

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Hussain, aged 23, a former Durham University player, continues his comeback by playing for Essex second team against MCC at Leigh-on-Sea tomorrow.



Eye on the ball: Hinks, of Kent, beats the Oxfordshire wicketkeeper to earn a four

## Century by promoted Wells completes full day of action

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

**OXFORD** (Oxfordshire won toss): Kent beat Oxfordshire by 102 runs.

KENT were set up for the kill here. Disrupted by a bewildering number of injuries, they just about found eleven fit men and then made a dangerously modest score on a good pitch. They survived because Oxfordshire, having bowled and fielded as Minor Counties should, then played with the bat.

Against an attack missing Merrick and Ellison, the asking rate of a little under four and over looked within the compass of a prolific batting side, who had not been beaten since last year's gallant failure in this competition. They knew that record had perished when, shortly after tea, they subsided to 66 for six.

Among the first to shake his hand was Stuart Waterson, once of Kent and now not only Oxfordshire's wicketkeeper but their leading batsman. He won them a championship match

earlier this week and much was expected of him here but he lasted only five balls. Igglesden struck a second blow in his third over and although Ford lingered 31 overs for 26, there was no serious resistance until it was all too late.

By then, another unexpected inclusion in the Kent team had left his mark. Minal Patel, 20 years old next week, was added to the party only an injury insurance after finishing his term at college. When Ellison's bruised foot discounted him, Patel was in and, after five overs of nerveless left-arm spin his figures were one wicket for no run.

This, in fact, was a good day for the protection-of-spin society. Both teams used two slow bowlers for a full quota. None were punished and they shared half the day's wickets.

## YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Bucks v Notts	
MAULOW (Buckinghamshire won toss): Nottinghamshire beat Buckinghamshire by 192 runs.	
<b>NOTTINGHAMSHIRE</b>	
B C Broad b Black	115
M Broad b Schoon	115
D C Stephenson c Broad b Burrow	30
T T Robinson c and b Perry	30
P Johnson c Harwood b Lymn	30
M Stead c Lymn b Black	30
Y B French c Black b Perry	7
E E Hemmings b Black	7
E Cooper c Perry b Perry	4
R A Ford not out	4
J A Hink not out	4
Extras (b 1, w 1, nb 3)	22
Total (60 overs)	312
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-27, 2-140, 3-187, 4-206, 5-277, 6-288, 7-305, 8-308.	
<b>BOWLING:</b> Lymn 12-3-48-3; Black 11-2-22-2; Burrow 12-1-21-1; Schoon 12-0-7-0; French 12-0-7-0; Hemmings 12-0-7-0; Cooper 12-0-7-0; Ford 12-0-7-0; Hink 12-0-7-0.	
Oxfordshire v Kent	
OXFORDSHIRE (Oxfordshire won toss): Kent beat Oxfordshire by 102 runs.	
<b>KENT</b>	
S G Ginn c Ginn b Hartley	45
N R M Maclaurin c Moles b Minton	10
P R Diver b Minton	10
A Neesham c Ginn b Hartley	35
M Stead c Ginn b Hartley	35
O M Smith c Harwood b Moles	35
D C Stephenson c Ginn b Hartley	35
G A R Hinks c Moles b Minton	11
G A R Hinks c Moles b Minton	11
Extras (b 2, w 0, nb 0)	22
Total (60 overs)	224
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-27, 2-140, 3-187, 4-206, 5-277, 6-288, 7-305, 8-308.	
<b>BOWLING:</b> Lymn 12-3-48-3; Black 11-2-22-2; Burrow 12-1-21-1; Schoon 12-0-7-0; French 12-0-7-0; Hemmings 12-0-7-0; Cooper 12-0-7-0; Ford 12-0-7-0; Hink 12-0-7-0.	
Durham v Lancashire	
DURHAM (Durham won toss): Lancashire beat Durham by eight wickets.	
<b>DURHAM</b>	
J K Brown b Lymn	45
D C Stephenson c Broad b Burrow	30
T T Robinson c and b Perry	30
P Johnson c Harwood b Lymn	30
M Stead c Lymn b Black	30
Y B French c Black b Perry	7
E E Hemmings b Black	7
E Cooper c Perry b Perry	4
R A Ford not out	4
J A Hink not out	4
Extras (b 1, w 1, nb 3)	22
Total (60 overs)	312
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-27, 2-140, 3-187, 4-206, 5-277, 6-288, 7-305, 8-308.	
<b>BOWLING:</b> Lymn 12-3-48-3; Black 11-2-22-2; Burrow 12-1-21-1; Schoon 12-0-7-0; French 12-0-7-0; Hemmings 12-0-7-0; Cooper 12-0-7-0; Ford 12-0-7-0; Hink 12-0-7-0.	
Derbyshire v Shropshire	
DERBYSHIRE (Derbyshire won toss): Shropshire beat Derbyshire by seven wickets.	
<b>SHROPSHIRE</b>	
J K Brown b Lymn	45
D C Stephenson c Broad b Burrow	30
T T Robinson c and b Perry	30
P Johnson c Harwood b Lymn	30
M Stead c Lymn b Black	30
Y B French c Black b Perry	7
E E Hemmings b Black	7
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Essex v Scotland	
ESSEX (Essex won toss): Scotland beat Essex by five wickets.	
<b>SCOTLAND</b>	
J K Brown b Lymn	45
D C Stephenson c Broad b Burrow	30
T T Robinson c and b Perry	30
P Johnson c Harwood b Lymn	30
M Stead c Lymn b Black	30
Y B French c Black b Perry	7
E E Hemmings b Black	7
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Suffolk v Worcs	
SUFFOLK (Suffolk won toss): Worcs beat Suffolk by five wickets.	
<b>WORCS</b>	
J K Brown b Lymn	45
D C Stephenson c Broad b Burrow	30
T T Robinson c and b Perry	30
P Johnson c Harwood b Lymn	30
M Stead c Lymn b Black	30
Y B French c Black b Perry	7
E E Hemmings b Black	7
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Gloucestershire v Lincolnshire	
GLoucestershire (Gloucestershire won toss): Gloucestershire beat Lincolnshire by 195 runs.	
<b>GLoucestershire</b>	
B C Broad b Black	115
M Broad b Schoon	115
D C Stephenson c Broad b Burrow	30
T T Robinson c and b Perry	30
P Johnson c Harwood b Lymn	30
M Stead c Lymn b Black	30
Y B French c Black b Perry	7
E E Hemmings b Black	7
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Derbyshire v Shropshire	
DERBYSHIRE (Derbyshire won toss): Shropshire beat Derbyshire by seven wickets.	
<b>SHROPSHIRE</b>	
J K Brown b Lymn	45
D C Stephenson c Broad b Burrow	30
T T Robinson c and b Perry	30
P Johnson c Harwood b Lymn	30
M Stead c Lymn b Black	30
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Essex v Scotland	
ESSEX (Essex won toss): Scotland beat Essex by five wickets.	
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D C Stephenson c Broad b Burrow	30
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P Johnson c Harwood b Lymn	30
M Stead c Lymn b Black	30
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## Cowdrey's travels may prove to be exercise in futility

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

CRICKET's annual apology for an international conference begins at Lord's today. The usual form is that the delegates converge, mandated in the style of under-cover agents to admit to nothing which might damage their national self-interest. Predictably, year after year, nothing worthwhile is done.

The difference this year is that Colin Cowdrey has imbued the chairmanship of the International Cricket Council (ICC) with such a rare sense of purpose and reform that today's gathering will have to contend with all manner of radical proposals. In most instances, however, their aim will indeed be to contend, rather than to concur, so the end result may not be markedly different from the tried and trusted inertia.

This would be a tragedy for the game, which only the crass and the complacent believe to be above reform, but also a personal insult to Cowdrey, whose tireless travelling and talking in an effort to find common ground in the views of diverse countries and characters deserves some return.

Cowdrey has visited every Test-playing nation in the past nine months and, as recently as last week, he was urgently consulting a hand-picked selection of international captains, managers, and umpires. His conclusions are not, therefore, those of a bureaucrat or an accountant, the types who seem so often to condition modern cricketing decisions, but reflect the concerns of those at the sharp end.

There are some areas in which progress may be made over the next two days, but it is highly improbable that the sensitive issues of short-pitched bowling, over-rates, and player conduct will be addressed as positively as Cowdrey, or most other English administrators, would like. Last year, England's Test and County Cricket Board narrowly failed to achieve agreement on limiting bowlers in Test cricket.



## CRICKET

## Derbyshire suffer embarrassment in a delayed start

By GEOFFREY WHEELER

THE only county championship side to suffer serious embarrassment in the first round of the NatWest Trophy yesterday was Derbyshire. Not that they were in any real danger of defeat by Shropshire, not that once they had found a ball to play with.

The first message of the day from Queen's Park, Chesterfield, was that the start had been delayed "due to an equipment shortage". The mind boggles.

As the teams were about to take the field, it was discovered that the match balls were still at county headquarters at Derby, 25 miles away. The club's chief executive, Bob Clark, said in one of the understatement of the season: "There has been a breakdown in communications."

The balls arrived in time for a start to be made after a 40-minute delay and Shropshire, having weathered Devon Malcolm's opening burst were being taken along nicely by the former Lancashire captain, John Abraham, before Mortimer had a spell of three wickets in ten balls. With Allan Warner chipping in with competition best figures of four for 39, Shropshire were limited to 184 for eight.

Brian Shantry then dismissed the Derbyshire openers cheaply but John Morris, in his best, non-sensuous mood, hurried the game to a conclusion with a vigorous, unhesitating, and Derbyshire won by seven wickets.

Omar Henry's 48-ball half-century, including three sixes off John Childs, helped Scotland to reach 200 against Essex at Chelmsford, but this proved no sort of target for Gooch, who hit 18 fours in his 109-ball century as Essex breezed home by nine wickets.

The best performance by a minor county came from Berkshire who reached an eminently respectable 204 for six at Lord's

against Middlesex, the county championship leaders. Phil Oxley provided late acceleration with 33 from 35 balls after the earlier batsmen had been pinned down by Emburey and Haynes, who filled in as a sixth bowler. Middlesex were grateful to Gattling's expertise for, although he made 79 not out, Middlesex lost six wickets before victory was achieved.

Alan Fordham (130) and Nigel Fothergill (70) had an opening partnership of 166 for Northamptonshire against Staffordshire and the innings reached a crescendo with Bailey and Lamb adding 118 from the last 12 overs, Lamb hitting 68 of them from 56 balls. Faced by a total of 360 for two, Staffordshire mustered no more than 144 for seven.

With Alec Stewart nursing an ankle sprain, Chris Bullen stepped in to open the Surrey innings and won the man-of-the-match award against Wiltshire at Trowbridge for his unbeaten 93, as Surrey passed Wiltshire's 166 for nine with nine wickets and more than 23 overs to spare. Paul Ball, the former Cambridge University and Somerset player, who made 66, was the only Wiltshire batsman to look at ease.

Yorkshire's ten-wicket win over Norfolk, who made only 104 at Headingley, was their third by such a margin in the last six years at this stage of the competition. Phil Carrick cast such a spell that his three wickets in 12 overs cost only eight runs.

The outstanding bowling return of the day, however, came from Tony Dodemaide, the Australian all-rounder who had figures of 11-7-9-6 as Ireland were dismissed for 72 at Downpatrick, which left Sussex with no sort of challenge.

day was that they did not see Boham bat. As so often happens in these David and Goliath fixtures, Suffolk were never able to score quickly enough after being given first use of a slow, damp pitch.

Mike Topley, formerly of Worcestershire and Essex, and Justin Edrich (yes, son of Bill), provided the only resistance. Worcestershire were well served by their spinners, Illingworth and Hick completed their allocation of overs before hunch and always kept things on a tight rein, and D'Oliveira played his part later. Suffolk passed 100 in the fourth over, but any late acceleration was ruled out when Boham and Lampitt returned.

McEvoy and Edrich added 107 in 42 overs for the second wicket. McEvoy pulled Illingworth for one six, Edrich hooked a slower ball, and Suffolk hit five fours. They were out in successive overs after lunch: McEvoy was caught at mid-wicket and Edrich was swept behind as he tried to sweep. After this, Caley played several defensive drives but otherwise Suffolk subsided, and none of their last six men reached double figures.

catch, at 37 for 1, in the 15th over. New Zealand had just lost Franklin, brilliantly caught one-handed by Kilborn, at mid-on, and the New Zealanders should then have departed in the following first over from Pymon. Crowe, on 11, misdrove a simple catch to square leg only for Turner to drop the ball at the second attempt.

That was the misfortune for Turner, the Oxonian, and shortly afterwards, at 50 for one, the other Turner in the field aroused great concern in Cambridge. Rob Turner, the wicketkeeper, had to leave the field in pain and go straight to hospital.

The diagnosis was a muscle spasm of the shoulder. At last, there is every optimism of him returning behind the stumps today and, with the 145th anniversary match starting at Lord's next Wednesday, it is vital importance for Cambridge that he recovers.

Greatbatch, in his innings of 62 in 97 minutes, was the only batsman to really flourish, with an array of confident strokeplay. The universities certainly paid dearly for a dropped

Middlesex domination threatened by injuries

SECOND XI REVIEW by SIMON WILDE

MIDDLESEX, the holders of the second XI championship and one-day titles, are still able to produce only the most quixotic form. Injuries to several first-team players, Elcock and Smith, have depleted the strength and stability of the reserve side, and have ensured that the county will be unable to dominate the two competitions as they did last year.

In a round of Rapid Cricketer championship matches badly affected by rain, Middlesex were the only county to win. Their victory by 110 runs over Nottinghamshire at Clifton was achieved only after the two sides had arranged for a fourth-innings run chase on the final afternoon, although on the first day the better of play.

In a round of Rapid Cricketer championship matches badly affected by rain, Middlesex were the only county to win. Their victory by 110 runs over Nottinghamshire at Clifton was achieved only after the two sides had arranged for a fourth-innings run chase on the final afternoon, although on the first day the better of play.

In the one-day Boin Clarkson Trophy on Tuesday, however, it was a dramatically different story. In the usually friendly

surroundings of the Oval, and after Surrey had amassed 262 for five, Middlesex were skittled out for just 51.

Elsewhere in the championship, the adverse weather conditions certainly helped Sussex, the leaders, escape a hiding against Hampshire at Southampton. After the first day, Hampshire, with only one wicket down, were within 50 of Sussex's modest first-innings total of 175, but rain prevented any further play.

At Chelmsford, Steve Andrews, who joined Essex on a two-year contract from Hampshire in January, took seven for 57 against Gloucestershire. At one stage the visiting side were 9 for 4.

In the Boin Clarkson Trophy, Northamptonshire, who last week successfully chased a target of 232 against Yorkshire, failed by 10 runs to reach the final. Ian Foley, not so long ago regarded as a contender for the England side, but now unable to secure a first-team place with Lancashire, took four for 21.

## British giant-killers fail to repeat the dose in second round at Wimbledon

## Home players end challenge

By DAVID POWELL

SARA Gomer and Sarah Loosemore, who rejuvenated British tennis with first-round victories over seeds, were beaten in the second round yesterday. With their departure went the last hopes of a home player appearing in the third round.

Loosemore started with an ace against Elena Reinach, of South Africa, but it was all downhill after that. She lost 6-3, 7-5, mainly because her opponent found a weakness on the British No. 10's backhand and kept playing to it.

Gomer's farewell was more dramatic. Having lost a tight first set against Angelica Gavaldon, of the United States, she raced through the second, conceding only nine points, but ran out of gas. Gomer went down 7-5, 0-6, 7-5.

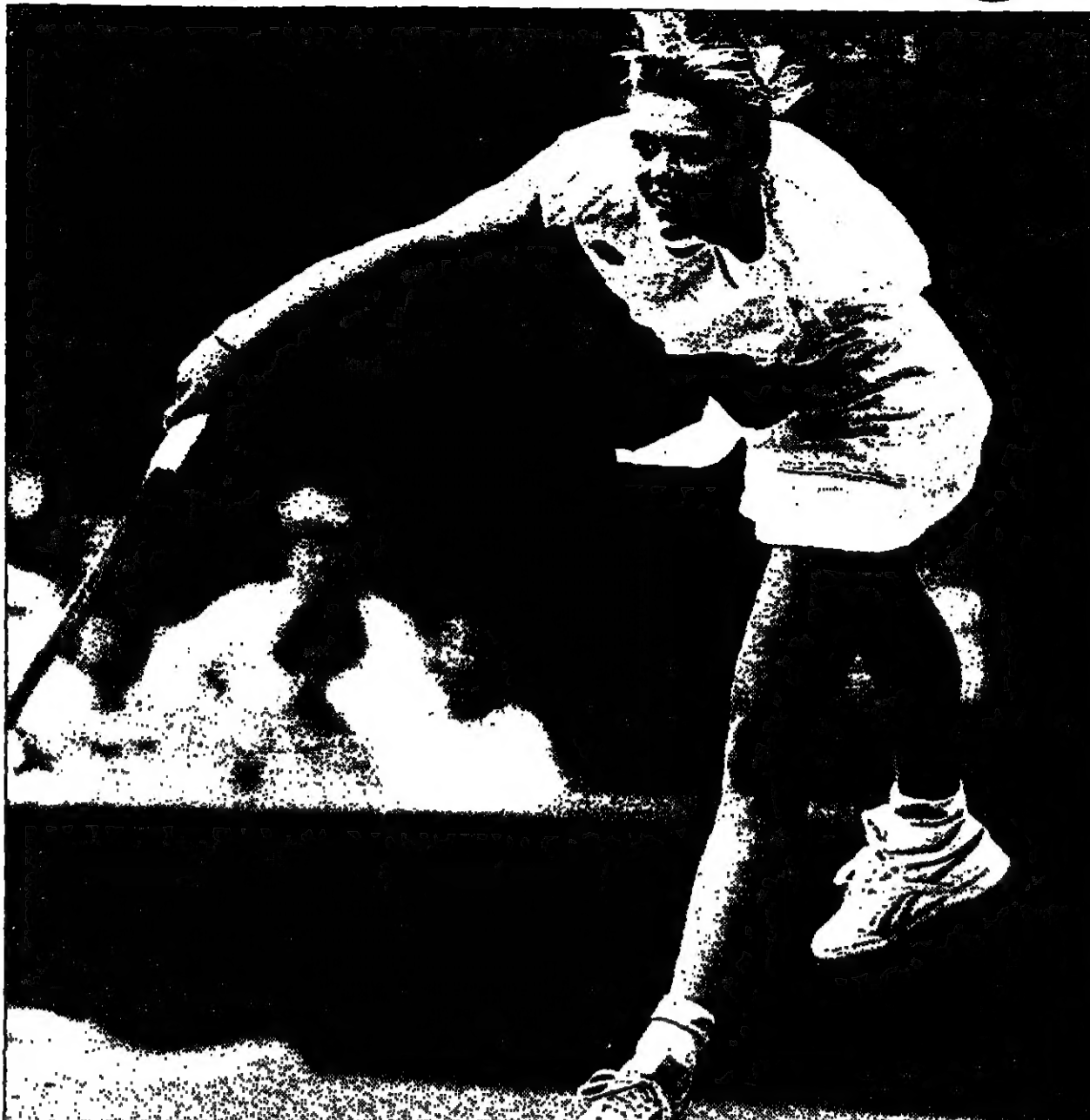
Loosemore, aged 19, had put out the sixteenth seed, Barbara Paulus, of Austria, on Monday. The venom in her shots apparent then was missing yesterday, and Reinach's tidy game forced her into mistakes.

From trailing 2-3, Reinach won the first set because of 14 points out of 20 lost on errors by Loosemore. In the second set, with the score at 3-3, Loosemore lost a game to love by conceding four backhand errors.

The crowd on court one found their vocal support and Loosemore responded with two beautifully driven backhands down the line to level at 5-5. But Reinach, who at 87th in the world is ranked 12 places higher than Loosemore, won the next two games to earn a third-round match against Ann Henricksson, of the United States.

Gomer's defeat was particularly disappointing after she had put out Manuela Maleeva, the No. 8 seed, on Tuesday. Gavaldon is only 16 and, at 5ft 3in, had a reach disadvantage of 11 inches. But even after losing the second set comprehensively, she did not allow herself to be intimidated.

When Gomer survived the third game of the final set after serving three double faults which took it into a lengthy tie-break, it seemed that she had the character to pull



Not quite enough: Sarah Loosemore serving during her second-round defeat by Elena Reinach yesterday

through. She was broken in the seventh game, but broke back in the eighth, only to drop service again in the eleventh. Gavaldon then served out to win in one hour, 38 minutes.

This is the young American's first Wimbledon; before she came here, she had not won a match on grass after successive first-round defeats at Beckenham, Edgbaston and Eastbourne. She will play her

compatriot, Patty Fendick, for a place in the last 16.

For Gomer, she can at least reflect on the best victory of her career, over Maleeva. It came at a time when she was least expected - after she had slipped to 180th in the world. With all recognised British players out of both singles, there will be interest today in Neil Broad. He plays Christian Bergstrom, of Sweden, in the second round. He started

the tournament on Monday listed in the programme as South African, but the draw now has him as British.

He has a British passport and asked Wimbledon to accord him British allegiance when he has always been known as South African. "He is still South African according to the ATP," an Association of Tennis Professionals spokesman said.

John Fitzgerald and Anders

Jarryd, the men's doubles title holders at Wimbledon, literally crashed out in the first round when they ran into each other going for the same ball against Jonathan Canter and Bruce Derlin. Jarryd, of Sweden, a former singles semi-finalist, injured a rib, and the third seeds had to retire, allowing Canter, of the United States, and Derlin, of New Zealand, to win 1-6, 6-1, 6-4, 1-0.

Swindon's plea that the punishment was too severe received support from their supporters, players and the Professional Footballers' Association. The League have delayed issuing next season's fixture list until after the outcome of Swindon's appeal.

As he left the court, where Mr Registrar Buckley had granted a fortnight's stay on a compulsory winding-up order, Hancock said: "I am as confident as I can be. We need a goal in extra time."

COURTESY ruled out

GEORGE Courtney's participation in the World Cup has come to an end because of England's success in reaching the quarter-finals. FIFA yesterday told 20 of the 36 referees in Italy that their services would no longer be required, with six, including Courtney, ruled out from officiating at further matches because they came from countries that have qualified for the last 16.

Andreas Herren, a FIFA spokesman, said: "It would obviously be seen as unfair if they continued while their countries are still in the tournament."

He said the remaining 16 were chosen on the basis of the marks awarded by FIFA inspectors at group and second round matches and through assessments of their performances by the referees' commission.

## WIMBLEDON RESULTS

Seeded players in capitals

## Men's singles

Winner: £190,000

Runner-up: £95,500

Holder: B Becker (WG)

Second round

F FORGET (Fr) bt E Jelen (WG), 7-5, 6-7, 7-6, 6-3

M Stich (WG) bt A Rahnen (Fm), 5-7, 6-3, 6-2

A Volkov (USSR) bt C Van Rensburg (SA), 7-5, 6-7, 6-3

M Kowmans (Neth) bt G Bloom (Isr), 7-5, 6-4, 6-3

N Kron (Swi) bt R Krishnan (India), 6-3, 6-2, 6-3

G Ivanisovic (Yug) bt D Delaire (Fr), 6-2, 6-0, 4-6, 6-7, 6-3

D Rostagno (US) bt J Bates (GB), 6-1, 6-4, 6-3

B GILBERT (US) bt D Viseur (SA), 5-7, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2

P Hearnish (Neth) bt D Cahill (Aus), 7-5, 5-7, 7-6, 6-4, 6-3

D Wheaton (US) bt P Annaccone (US), 6-4, 1-6, 6-4, 6-7, 6-4

J SVENSSON (Swi) bt M Washington (US), 6-3, 6-3, 6-3

J Aguilera (Sp) bt W Ferreira (SA), 6-3, 7-5, 6-3

D GODE (US) bt K Flach (US), 6-3, 6-4, 6-4

B BECKER (WG) bt W Masur (Aus), 6-7, 6-2, 6-3, 6-2

J. WILSON (US) bt J Haland (Fr), 6-2, 7-5, 6-4

J. WILSON (US) bt J Haland (Fr), 6-2, 7-5, 6-4

J. WILSON (US) bt J Haland (Fr), 6-2, 7-5, 6-4

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## Men's doubles

Winner: £55,870 per pair

Runner-up: £23,890 per pair

Holders: J Fitzgerald (Aus) and A Jarryd (Swi)

First round

J Flautin (Fr) and D Mergio (It) bt R Bergh (Swi) and N Hoin (Swi), 6-1, 7-6, 6-3

P Deussen (Aus) and L Wender (Aus) bt S Colombo (It) and G Pozzi (It), 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-7, 6-4

K Kinnear (US) and B Pearce (US) bt N Odizer (Nigeria) and P Welkeke (Ken), 7-6, 6-3, 6-7, 6-3

P GALBRAITH (US) and D MacPHERSON (Aus) bt B Dyke (Aus) and S Yout (Aus), 6-0, 6-4, 7-5

N Brown (GB) and M Schepers (Neth) bt G Pfizner (WG) and T Thome (WG), 3-6, 6-4, 6-7, 7-6

Women's singles

Winner: £171,000

Runner-up: £85,500

Holder: Miss S Graf (WG)

Second round

S GRAF (WG) bt M McGrath (US), 6-3, 6-0

C Kohde-Kisch (WG) bt D Faber (US), 6-2, 6-0

J. WILSON (US) bt J Haland (Fr), 6-2, 7-5, 6-4

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## SPORT

## Platt must beware a Maracana millstone

IT WAS not hard to identify the Englishmen on the 11.05 flight from Bologna to Rome on the morning after England's win against Belgium. Every one of us had a smile on our faces and conversation flowed.

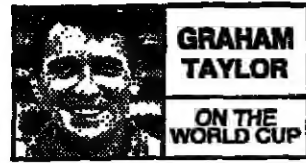
Media representatives, Football Association dignitaries and football personalities all mixed, which was as it should be, with the main point of discussion being the superb winning goal by David Platt.

A few hours earlier, as I sat in the stand watching the players' celebrations, with David at their centre, my mind had gone back to December 28, 1987.

Aston Villa had played a second division game that afternoon, drawing one apiece with Huddersfield Town, but I left the post-match press conference to Steve Harrison, my assistant.

The reason? I was treating my wife, Rita, to a late Christmas present—a trip to Newport to watch Newport County play Crewe Alexandra in a fourth division fixture with an evening kick-off.

We knew that, providing we made a reasonably early start, the journey from Birmingham would not be too difficult, and the turkey sandwiches and flask of soup would be very welcome on the return trip.



GRAHAM TAYLOR  
ON THE WORLD CUP

The scouts in the system that I had restructured since becoming manager at Villa Park were insisting that I take a look at a Crewe player called David Platt. Eighteen months earlier, Platt had played against my then club, Watford, in a Littlewoods Cup tie, but I could recall little about it.

So on that bitterly cold evening, Rita and I arrived at Somerton Park, paid our admission, and stood on the terraces near one side of a goal and watched Platt, wearing No. 7, play in midfield in a 4-4-2 formation.

He was captain of Crewe and, as I watched, I noted particularly how he encouraged his team colleagues, but there were three other aspects of his play that stood out from an otherwise average performance. He had "a good engine", and it was obvious that he was two-footed, which (a sad commentary on the contemporary game) was another distinction. He did one other thing that convinced me he could play. Not for the first time, he broke

forward from midfield, beyond the Newport defenders who had pushed up for offside. Without any apparent change of action or stride, he clipped the ball over the goalkeeper—and yards over the bar.

I was pleased he missed. Had he scored, everyone would have recognised the goal as quality play. It could have put another £25,000 on his transfer fee, and the scouts and managers in the directors' box might just have become convinced to pay it.

Anyone can see success on the field but, when assessing a player, I try to imagine what he was thinking when things did not come off. David had missed a good scoring opportunity, but his record already told me that he was a scorer. What he had revealed was that he had quick feet and, most importantly, a quick mind.

That was enough for me and, absolutely freezing, we left the game with 20 minutes remaining. I knew I had seen a potential first division footballer and decided that perhaps I would try to take a look at him again.

What a mistake that could have been. A fortnight later, Steve Harrison returned to Watford to become their manager, taking with him the knowledge of our interest in many players, including David Platt.

The day after Steve left Aston Villa, I phoned Dario Gradi, the manager of Crewe, and offered £150,000 for David. Only to be informed that a number of first division clubs, including Watford, would match that figure. The next day, I offered £200,000, which I thought was a bit over the odds.

Two-and-a-half years on, my wife has recovered from the frostbite she received on the terraces that night at Somerton Park, and "Platt", the Professional Footballers' Association Player of the Year, has warned the whole of England with a goal in the World Cup finals.

David is not outstanding at any one thing. He has pace, but is not the quickest. He competes well in the air, but is not the highest jumper. He passes both long and short with both feet, but only occasionally delivers a pass of great perception. He does not tackle a lot because he does not have to; he positions himself to intercept instead.

He often scores with simple taps but adds to his total with the occasional outstanding goal. He is a midfield player working from penalty box to penalty box, always on the move, as prepared to do "unseen" work for his colleagues as to seek glory himself. He never misses training, likes a laugh and a

flutter on the horses, but he is no fool and will cope with the outside pressures and influences that international success is bound to bring.

In fact, he is the best £200,000 that I ever spent. But a word of caution for you, David. From that same stand in Bologna on Tuesday night, I saw John Barnes struggling. It was not the Barnes of Liverpool that I saw. Neither, may I say, was it the Barnes of Watford.

In 1984, in the Maracana Stadium, John scored the goal of a lifetime against Brazil, but that was exactly what it was: something that could not be repeated. John is now suffering from failing to meet the expectations that his goal created, and at the moment he needs the kind of encouragement that David is receiving.

Tomorrow, their roles could be reversed. John has a natural talent that is revered when it flows and reviled when it is absent. David has a talent that requires a special moment for all to appreciate it. That moment came for him in the 119th minute of the game against Belgium. I hope it is recognised for what it is, and that it does not become a millstone around his neck. If it does, who will be to blame? David, because he scored it, or the rest of us for wanting such a goal every game?



Ready to serve: Platt relaxes in Bologna yesterday

## England's finest are a poor example

From DAVID MILLER IN BOLOGNA

THE off-field behaviour of the England team has been childish and irresponsible, and a poor example to younger professionals and the many misguided spectators from England in Italy.

The FA has instructed its manager to ensure that daily press conferences with English newspapers are conducted by the players in an orderly fashion. Two days ago the players at first refused, petulantly, to talk to the English press, on account of one or two stories that have appeared in tabloid papers during the past three weeks. On Tuesday, some of the England squad threw drink cans at Paul Parker when he agreed to speak with members of the press. He was abused to such an extent that he had to terminate the interview.

Worse still, several minutes after the conclusion of Tuesday night's victory against Belgium here, Butcher and Waddle went to the middle of the pitch facing the end where the majority of England spectators were seated, and proceeded to mime the fans' battle-chant and to wave clenched fists. Nothing could have been more irresponsible on a day when over 200 spectators had been deported for misbehaviour in Rimini.

## Bates leads way to the exit

By ANDREW LONGMORE TENNIS CORRESPONDENT



More Wimbledon, page 43

BRITAIN'S challenge at Wimbledon disappeared into the haze that hung over the All England Club for much of the third day of the championships yesterday. Jeremy Bates, the last of the seven home players in the men's singles, was beaten by Derrick Rostagno, though he at least managed one more set than McEnroe in defeat, while Sara Gomer and Sarah Loosmore, the last of nine women, also lost, to Angelica Gavaldon and Elena Reinach, respectively.

It is the first time in history that no British player has reached the third round of singles at Wimbledon, but, with Loosmore and Gomer beating seeds in the first round, it was a case of never mind the width feel the quality.

Perhaps the aptest comment on the state of British tennis at the moment is Neil Broad, who has a British passport. Broad was born in South Africa, but is being advertised as "GBR" in the Wimbledon programme, which, in present dire circumstances is a good enough qualification. If he beats Christian Bergstrom today, he should be nationalised immediately.

After the mayhem of the previous day when seven seeds fell, a due sense of order, anti-climax even, settled over Wimbledon. By early evening,

there had been few surprises.

The defending champions, Boris Becker and Steffi Graf, won comfortably enough, Graf bettering her time of the previous day by six minutes in defeating Meredith McGrath, of Michigan, 6-3, 6-0 in 45 minutes. The young American barely had time to ponder her recent decision to turn professional. "It seems when I go out on court here I am a different person," said the champion, who now plays her Federation Cup partner, Claudia Kohde-Kilsch, in the third round.

Monica Seles extended her unbeaten run to 34 matches with victory over Camille Benjamin, the tall left-hander from Cleveland, Ohio. With her big glasses and her faraway look, Benjamin is often described as a female version of Arthur Ashe. She plays a slightly more feminine and left-handed version of Ashe's game too, using the angles and counter-punching. Once upon a time, when she first played at Wimbledon at the age of 17 seven years ago, she was tipped to go to the top, but her highest peak was number 27 in the world and the slide has been gentle and steady ever since. She is now ranked 114.

The match proved to be a miniature of her career; it promised much and yielded nothing. After losing the first set, Benjamin had two points for a 5-1 lead in the second as Seles lost consistency on the groundstrokes which had proved so deadly on the clay of Paris. Momentarily, after the jitters of the previous day, another upset seemed in view, but Seles has learnt fast this year and is a much tougher player. Having survived that game, she recovered her poise to win six of the next seven games to reach the third round.

"Maybe last year I would have panicked at being at 4-1 down, but I have been in that position before and know that I can come back," said Seles.



On the way down and out: Bates fails to reach the third round at Wimbledon

Seles now plays Anne Minter, of Australia. If she wins that she has a fourth round tie against Ann Henricksson or Elena Reinach. The road now looks clear for a quarter-final with Zina Garrison and renewed acquaintance with Steffi Graf.

Henricksson's victory, by 6-3, 6-3, over Hana Mandlikova, was sadly predictable. It was also appropriate that Mandlikova should lose the final grand slam match of her career to a player two years older than her and, at 101, ranked 70 places below

her. The gist of a long and agonised farewell press conference was that the Czech-born Australian, who has won three grand slam titles in her 12-year career, has lost her will to compete. Some would say she lost it a few years ago.

Besides Seles, Jennifer Capriati came through safely against the useful Julie Halard in straight sets. Halard, aged 19, has risen from 119 to 37 over the past six months and beat Zina Garrison at Lipton. Without knowing the ages of the pair, you would have guessed that Capriati was 19

and Halard 14, but they played a good match, particularly in the second set, which went to the tie-break. For a time it seemed that the American's next opponent would be Magdalena Maleeva, who is only a year older than Capriati. In the end, Maleeva was beaten in three sets by Robin White.

As ever, Bates, the British number one, flattered to deceive. He lost the first set in 20 minutes, recovered to level the match, but subsided thereafter to complete the rout of the locals.

## Becker warms up for killer blow

By REX BELLAMY

THE most fancied Wimbledon competitors tend to be a little unsure of themselves in the early rounds, like heavyweight champions watching talented cruiserweights prance around them for a while. Sometimes it goes wrong but usually it goes right. The cruiserweights are carefully measured up; then the big punches sink in.

Thus it was yesterday when Boris Becker, three times champion, beat Wally Masur 6-7, 6-2, 6-3, 6-2 in two hours and 24 minutes. The first set went the way it did because Masur served and volleyed consistently well, survived two break points with a couple of aces in the fifth game, and instantly cashed in when Becker served a double-fault in the tie-break.

After that Becker played better and Masur worse, which meant that they were no longer competing on even terms. Becker won nine games out of 11, though in the second set there were six service breaks in seven games, which suggested that the concentration of both men demanded a breather after the rigorous demands of the first set.

Becker began to move more freely and

hit harder, which was partly responsible for the fact that Masur was soon making more mistakes than he could afford, especially in the forecourt. Everything was happening too fast for Masur. Increasingly, Becker was far more competent in putting the ball away, often with blazing responses to Masur's attempts to outmanoeuvre him.

It all became faintly ritualistic and predictable. Eventually one noted a spectator sleeping, another yawning, another reading, and many occupants of the royal box vanishing to the tea room to savour a cuppa and a jam butty, or whatever it is they serve up there. Doubtless, too, there were spectators who felt slightly guilty because, although this was Wimbledon and Becker was playing, they were not much enjoying the spectacle. Somebody even suggested that the tennis was tedious once the warm-up had finished.

Becker walked on court, just ahead of Masur, like a chief executive (followed by an aide) about to address a staff meeting. To some extent that was how it worked out. Masur, the most Austrian Australian ever born in Southampton, had won their only previous match on grass: but that was in Melbourne in 1987,

when Becker was on the point of a fractious parting from his coach.

Masur also beat John McEnroe at Wimbledon, in 1988. But those resounding wins over Becker and McEnroe were merely reminders that Masur, a charming man, is also a tough and shrewd competitor: always capable of doing serious damage to more distinguished opponents on days when his star is in the ascendant and theirs is not.

The neat, unfussy Masur made all that evident during his admirable first set, at a time when Becker was, so to speak, driving in a gear below top. When Becker let himself go, his racket made noises that were almost human: a gasp, a scream, or a murmurous snatch of song. In his last nine service games he conceded only six points.

Becker often reminds me of John Newcombe, though Becker has a more severe personality. For the second half of this match he looked awfully good, not least in the facility with which he read the rallies, leapt about, and overpowered Masur at every opportunity. For the record, Becker served seven aces and seven double-faults and took six faults: some simply because he was full of beans and could not keep the lid on.

## Somerset stroll becomes an embarrassment

By IVO TENNANT

TORQUAY (Devon won toss): Somerset beat Devon by 346 runs

THIS was so one-sided as to be an embarrassment. Somerset's 413 for four was the highest made in the NatWest Trophy, or Gillette Cup as it was, Devon's 67 was among the lowest. Records were broken at will.

The man-of-the-match award went to Tavaré, whose unbeaten 162 was his best score in one-day cricket. The most scintillating innings, though, was played by Rose, whose century was the quickest made in this competition. It came off 36 balls and including ten fours and seven sixes, several of them out of the ground. The award could also have gone to Lefebvre, who finished with seven for 15.

Eulogies have to be tempered by the fact that the gap between the teams was beyond what is normally seen when a first-class county plays a minor county. Poor Devon conceded the previous highest total, Worcestershire's 404 for three in 1987. They had no player capable of even stemming Somerset's progress.

Yet those who came yesterday, to what is known as the English Riviera, lapped it up. They saw a classy innings of 42 by Cook before he ran himself out, a stand of 136 in 27 overs between Haythorn and Tavaré, and then Rose's astonishing innings.

In the latter part of it, virtually every ball went to the boundary. Not every shot was muddled but it made no difference as he has large shoulders and a mighty swing of the bat. Some of his sixes went over the sightscreen; one bounced on top of it. In all, he

made 110 off 40 balls. He and Tavaré struck 189 from 71 balls.

Rose was out off the last ball of the innings. Tavaré, who excelled with the straight drive and a shot whipped through mid-wicket which invariably found the boundary, faced 130 balls and struck 26 fours and four sixes. All this on a pitch which, at the start, was slow and damp.

Somerset needed to score 17 off the last two overs to create a record, and they did so with four balls to spare. The match as a contest was over.

Devon, commendably, chose not to attempt to remain at the crease for 60 overs but to go for their shots. Not that Lefebvre gave them much opportunity. Whippy, accurate and capable of finding the perfect yorker, he ensured a swift conclusion.

SOMERSET	
S J Cook run out	42
R N Haythorn c and b Woodman	43
R N Haythorn c Pugh b Folland	43
G J Tavaré run out	162
G D Rose c Pugh b Dawson	110
Extras (w 5)	11
Total (4 wickets, 60 overs)	413
R J Hayden, N D Burns, I G Seaklow, R P Lefebvre, N A Mallerster and A N Jones did not bat	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-78, 2-88, 3-224, 4-413	
DEVON	
J H Edwards bow b Jones	4
R Pugh b Mallerster	9
N A Folland c Burns Mallerster	9
A J Pugh b Lefebvre	12
A B Brown bow b Lefebvre	12
R C Turpin c Rose b Lefebvre	1
R I Dawson bow b Lefebvre	1
Extras (w 5, w 9)	14
Total (10 wickets, 60 overs)	67
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-4, 3-11, 4-35, 5-41, 6-41, 7-44, 8-45, 9-53	
BOWLING: Devonshire 12-3-101-0 Woodman 12-3-50-1; Tavaré 11-2-82-0; Haythorn 12-3-77-0; Rose 6-0-34-0; Dawson 4-0-37-1; Folland 3-0-52-1	
MEM OF THE MATCH: C J Tavaré	
Umpires: G Haythorn and R Jullen	

## Hampshire hold on to triumph

By MARTIN SEARBY

LEICESTERSHIRE (Leicestershire won toss): Hampshire beat Leicestershire by one run

LEICESTERSHIRE became the first championship side to be eliminated from the 60 overs a side contest in an oddly leaden game at Grace Road, which contained none of the brio associated with these events until the closing overs when Leicestershire failed to achieve a modest target.

Hampshire's formidable batting side did not appear to have made sufficient runs, all the leading four getting out when pretty well set. Things might have been different had Lewis, at second slip, held Smith the elder in the second over without a run on the board. The first-wicket partnership of 69 proved the most effective of Hampshire's innings.

Terry miscued to mid-wicket and his partner was smartly taken by Willey in the guilley. Willey also accounted for Gower from a typically diletante shot when slightly deeper.

Robin Smith was undone by a ball which kicked and was excellently caught by the diving wicket-keeper and, with only 50 runs from the last 10

overs, Leicestershire should really have reached such a modest target, which, despite the loss of Briers, appeared well within their grasp when the Yorkshiremen, Boon and Whitaker, were together.

Leicestershire needed three off the last ball but Nixon was run out going for the second.

HAMPSHIRE	
V P Terry c Lewis b Willey	21
G L Smith c Willey b Benjamin	21
R A Smith c Nixon b Lewis	25
D I Gower c Willey b Mully	24
M D Marshall c Briers b Agnew	5
"M C Nicholas b Mully	19
R J Parris not out	14
R J Parris not out	14
Extras (w 4, w 8, w 4)	16
Total (10 wickets, 60 overs)	226
C A Connor and P J Bakker did not bat	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-65, 2-91, 3-129, 4-151, 5-151, 6-188, 7-213	
BOWLING: Benjamin 12-4-84-1; Agnew 12-1-44-2; Lewis 12-1-35-1; Willey 12-3-64-1; Mully 12-0-55-2	

LEICESTERSHIRE	
T J Boon c Parris b Mully	19
"E Briers b Bakker	8
J J Whitaker c R A Smith b Mully	24
R J Parris not out	24
C L Lewis bow b Mully	11
L Parris run out	11
J O R Baines c Nicholas b Ayling	11
W K M Benjamin c Gower b Ayling	11
T P A Nixon run out	21
Extras (w 1, w 12, w 8, w 2)	22
Total (10 wickets, 60 overs)	226
J P Agnew and A D Mully did not bat	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-16, 2-45, 3-68, 4-119, 5-157, 6-185, 7-185, 8-225	
BOWLING: Marshall 12-3-32-0; Bakker 12-0-51-1; Connor 12-1-43-0; Ayling 12-3-34-2; Mully 12-1-46-3	
MEM OF THE MATCH: P Willey	
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